

INSIDE: COMPLETE LIST OF WINNERS AND JUDGES COMMENTS

Presented April 8-9, 2021

NEW ENGLAND BETTER NEWSPAPER COMPETITION AWARD WINNERS JOURNALISM



NEW ENGLAND NEWSPAPER & PRESS ASSOCIATION





CONGRATULATIONS NEW ENGLAND BETTER NEWSPAPER COMPETITION AWARD WINNERS

This year's competition drew nearly 3,000 entries that were published during the contest year August 1, 2019 - July 31, 2020. The entries were evaluated by the New England Newspaper & Press Association's distinguished panel of judges. The results of the competition listed here recognize the excellent revenue and audience building activities that are taking place throughout New England — the finalists and winners are listed, along with the judges' comments.

NENPA is proud to celebrate this truly extraordinary work!

Entries were judged in six categories:

- ◆ Daily Newspapers with circulation up to 15,000
- ◆ Daily Newspapers with circulation more than 15,000
- ◆ Specialty and Niche Publications
- ◆ Weekly Newspapers with circulation up to 5,000
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DIGITAL PUBLISHING, *continued*

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Best Solutions Journalism Project
Excellence in Newsroom Collaboration
Innovator Award
Digital Strategy Excellence
Rookie of The Year
Reporter of The Year
Photojournalist of The Year

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING

Daily 1

1st Place: Dana Barbuto, The Patriot Ledger
In 'Little Women,' Chris Cooper understands his character's grief

This intimate interview with Academy Award winning actor Christopher Cooper traces his life and career and how he approaches his work and life, and the tragic loss of his son at age 17. Good organization and skillfully written. Bravo, well done!

2nd Place: Bill LeConey, Brattleboro Reformer
The art of family quarantine

Entertaining story about a New Hampshire family of five and how they kept themselves laughing despite the severe impact the coronavirus had on their lives.

3rd Place: Andy Castillo, The Greenfield Recorder
Finding forlorn beauty

Nice look at how local groups are taking the arts outdoors with a program of poetry boxes along hiking trails.

Daily 2

1st Place: Craig Semon, Telegram & Gazette
Wings over Westboro

An excellent account of the band Aerospace's first big outdoor concert as a headliner in the small Massachusetts community of Westboro where the crowd size of 15,000 exceeded the town's population by several thousand that day in 1974.

The story is ripe with detail from the number of lawmen and Pinkertons hired to keep the peace, what happened when the gate

crashers arrived, the hair color of the stalker, and even what band member Steven Tyler demanded for dinner each night. Strong reporting and writing, a job well done.

2nd Place: Tim Miller, Cape Cod Times
The magic that was Woodstock/Vietnam veteran shares view ...

Where were you at Woodstock is a 50-year-old question and this piece answers it through vignettes shared by Cape Coders who still seem to have a glint in their eye in the artwork that accompanies this presentation. The fun, the naughty things, the hardships and the joys come alive as they're woven by Tim Miller. There's also a sidebar about the "the other Woodstock" in an interview with an Army veteran who was serving in Vietnam as the time who suggests that he and his unwilling attendees there experienced events as psychedelic as the New York festival.

3rd Place: Kristina Dorsey, The Day True Story

Poignant account of how local big-time author Wally Lamb jumps in with the production and direction of his best-selling novel 22 years after it was published and what it means to him. Kristina Dorsey offers a down-to-earth insight into Lamb's values and feelings and offers a vivid behind the scenes look at the production of the book's HBO's series.

3rd Place: Christopher Arnott, The Hartford Courant
Creating 'radical inclusion'

Good overview of Connecticut's regional theaters and how they are evolving And responding to their communities. Lots of good concepts to chew on.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING *(continued)*

News Services and Online News Sites

**1st Place: Shira Schoenberg,
CommonWealth Magazine**

When the show does not go on

An ambitious comprehensive look at the wide-spread impact of the coronavirus on the arts community in the Boston region showcases some strong reporting. It's a big story to tell and no stone- large or small, is unturned.

**2nd Place: Cate Hewitt,
The Connecticut Examiner
Eric Lichter Makes Music and Family**

Well-written account of a musician who once played the big time settling into a small remote Connecticut town to re-order his priorities because of a sick child. He bares his soul about the decisions he has made and how he feels about music and working with musicians to create their own music.

**3rd Place: Kevin Slane, Boston.com
The historic, picturesque locations from
"Little Women"**

Nice overview of the filming of "Little Women" in 11 different Massachusetts communities. Strong artwork and commentary reveal the challenges and mechanics of tracking a woman who moved more than 20 times in her life.

Specialty

**1st Place: Victor Infante,
Worcester Magazine
Of Grief and Star Wars**

Very sensitive and skillful tribute to the life of Worcester music promoter Barry Dennis who didn't want an obituary when he died. Writer Victor Infante instead tells his story

through snippets of movies, comic books and conversations and the effects they have on life.

**2nd Place: Gwyn McAllister,
Martha's Vineyard Arts & Ideas
Art in the Time of Coronavirus**

A welcome and very different twist on arts and the coronavirus on Martha's Vineyard. Some artists feel it has given them the time and opportunity to revisit and tinker with old works or experiment in new mediums. Good writing and reporting.

Weekly 1

**1st Place: Tommy Gardner, Stowe Reporter
Seth Yacovone**

Great piece of writing about a guitarist who found his love of music at an early age and how he perseveres through the Covid lockdown. The writer uses an engaging style to chronicle the life of Seth Yacovone as he reached notoriety and found his way back to his home state.

**2nd Place: Caleigh Cross, Stowe Reporter
John Fusco**

An interesting look at a screenwriter and musician who gets a taste of Hollywood only to give it up for life in Vermont. The writer gives us some great descriptions of John Fusco who has "a bit of patina on his soul" and is "built like his house."

**3rd Place: Emily Clark, Old Colony Memorial
Exit Laughing**

Interesting tale of the intersection of lives who "exit laughing" in the same year. Who knew Bob Reiner, later Rob Reiner, would prove his acting ability performing for his parents at the Priscilla Beach Theatre?

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT REPORTING *(continued)*

Weekly 2

1st Place: Staff, Seven Days

Check This Out: Public libraries adapt

Ukuleles, metal detectors and ski passes. Who knew? This informative, broad-reaching look at seven libraries in Vermont is a winner. It examines both the inside and outside of libraries, the wide variety of offerings, funding and staffing. It makes the judge yearn for the opening of her town's library post Covid. This is public service reporting with an interesting twist.

2nd Place: Noah Asimow, Vineyard Gazette
Stranded, Happily, on Music Island

A great piece of descriptive writing that brings the reader into the Ritz of Martha's Vineyard. This is a subject that helps answer the question of what goes on "when the people get their island back."

3rd Place: Kate Cough,
The Ellsworth American
Their place on earth

Interesting story about a couple that chose to live a simpler, more rustic lifestyle, and how they are teaching others through their Way of the Earth school.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

Daily

1st Place: Kathi Scrizzi Driscoll,
Cape Cod Times

CapeWeek - Arts and Entertainment

Even in the middle of a pandemic this section is full of arts and entertainment! Virtual interviews with authors, information on walking/biking trails, and online festivals are

great additions to usual activities - which are also included.

2nd Place: Maria Reagan, Kristina Dorsey, Rick Koster, The Day
Colors of Grief

Fantastic section! Feature story on local artist is the centerpiece of this section and the layout is beautiful.

3rd Place: Staff, The Berkshire Eagle
Berkshires Week,

Colorful, creative and entertaining section. The extensive calendar is great, and layout is appealing. Love the "3 things we learned while putting this issue together."

Weekly

1st Place: Staff, Vineyard Gazette
August 2, 2019 A & E Section

This beautifully designed section has something for every reader - feature stories, recipes, gardening, extensive calendar and lots more. Congratulations!

2nd Place: Howard Karren, Saskia Maxwell Keller, Provincetown Independent
Arts & Minds Section

This section is very elegant with its sophisticated design and polished appearance reflecting the artistic community it serves. The arts briefs, reviews and feature stories are also well written.

3rd Place: Johanna S. Billings,
The Ellsworth American
Hidden Magic

This section has it all. The design and layout, including the calendar, make this a section many readers can enjoy.

BEST COVERAGE OF CORONAVIRUS

Daily 1

*1st Place: Kiernan Dunlop,
The Standard-Times*

Best Coronavirus Coverage

This collection of stories portrayed in fine detail the impact of the virus on a symbolic range of people: A key doctor hit himself -- hard -- by the virus; an artist's loss, personalized through the voice of his brother; health-care workers sickened by the virus. Compelling, touching accounts, sparked with outstanding quotes that evidenced sharp reporting and interviewing. Well-illustrated series too.

*2nd Place: Jeanette Hinkle,
The MetroWest Daily News*

DATA DEBATE: nursing home secrecy frustrates family members

Delves into an important issue at the sites hardest hit by the virus and provides excellent insight into the secrecy about virus deaths there. Hits hard on the key point that privacy concerns are a camouflage and a dodge to supplying the essential death statistics. The Daily News sought public records on this score and dug deep in canvassing these sites, to good effect. Fine personal touches in this story, demonstrating concern and anger over this secrecy. Well done.

3rd Place: Paul Leighton, The Salem News
Faces of the pandemic

Touching and well-drawn portraits of those most deeply affected by the virus -- the aged and isolated who died and their families who were denied being close to them at their time of need and were denied even proper funerals to ease their mourning.

Daily 2

1st Place (tie): Staff, The Day
Confronting the Coronavirus

The Day and The Republican-American earn a tie for first place in this highly competitive category. All newspapers are covering the pandemic, but these two publications distinguished themselves by going further - in addition to giving their readers the information they needed, they also encouraged readers to share what else they needed, then made sure to get that info to them. Articles about local residents, including staff, who contracted the virus were powerful. Coverage included touching memorials of those who lost their lives, and inspirational articles of local heroes who put themselves at risk; as well as informative data pieces to help readers navigate through an unprecedented time. It is clear that these newspapers are at the heart of the local communities they serve.

1st Place (tie): Staff, Republican-American
Coverage of the Coronavirus

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BEST COVERAGE OF CORONAVIRUS *(continued)*

2nd Place: Shawne K. Wickham, New Hampshire Union Leader Alone in this together

This collection of stories tells the many ways that the pandemic is affecting the community. Well-written, touching and thoughtfully told.

3rd Place: Staff, The Hartford Courant Best coverage of corona virus

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Staff, The Connecticut Mirror COVID in CT

CT Mirror's coverage of the unfolding COVID-19 crisis in a state that was hard-hit last year was remarkably insightful, put accountability pressure on people in power, and also beautifully explored the tragedy of grief and loss.

2nd Place: Staff, VTDigger.org Coronavirus in Vermont

Vermont was not as hard-hit by COVID-19 as other New England states, and VT Digger could make a case that its journalism and reader-centric and solutions-oriented engagement work on the pandemic was part of the reason residents and public officials were better prepared.

3rd Place: Dialynn Dwyer, Boston.com What responding to every call means for Boston EMS

Specialty

1st Place: Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly Assorted coronavirus coverage

Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly stands above others for serving their audience with

in-depth, timely and critical information through the pandemic. The massive amount of critical information they provided on the court system, managing law offices, philanthropic efforts, etc. landed them first place in this category.

2nd Place (tie): Providence Business News Knocked down but not out

The extensive coverage of the effects on local and state business was timely with thoughtfully written information that surely helped the business community navigate through the toughest times of the pandemic. Well done.

2nd Place (tie): Boston Business Journal BBJ Coronavirus coverage

Wide ranging coverage of the effects on the state's businesses, especially for those hardest hit - restaurants. The profiles of business leaders learning to adapt to the disruption was well done.

3rd Place: Grant Welker, Worcester Business Journal Needed: Hospital beds

An important issue that shocked everyone was the shortage of beds in the early days of the pandemic. Worcester Business Journal's article covering this topic was outstanding.

Weekly

1st Place: Staff, Vineyard Gazette Best Coverage of the Coronavirus

The deep engagement of the MV Times with its readers and community, coupled with its talented staff and reinvention as a digital-first publication, enabled it to stand above others in its COVID coverage. The staff provided extensive, timely and useful coverage from every angle imaginable:

BEST COVERAGE OF CORONAVIRUS *(continued)*

ongoing reporting by news editor Noah Asimow, regular data updates, stories of community heroes, thoughtful editorials, powerful photos, reader surveys and contributions, useful community information, economic impact analysis and more.

2nd Place: Derek Brouwer, Colin Flanders, Seven Days It's in the Building

This was journalistic story-telling at its best: well-written, thoughtfully told, powerfully illustrated and with a powerful message. It captured the human impact as the the virus spread rapidly through a nursing home population.

3rd Place: Shanta Lee Gander and MacLean Gander, The Commons

Art: "the thing that gives hope"...etc.

Ambitious long-form coverage of the impact of COVID on the local community. A special section centered around dozens of first-person accounts from members of the hard-hit local arts community.

BEST NICHE PUBLICATION

Daily

1st Place: The Berkshire Eagle UpCountry Magazine

I loved the layout and beautifully designed content of this magazine. The Winterlights and Holiday Cookie Swap gave such a warm tone to the holiday edition. The Hike, Bike, Kayak and more in the summer edition was a phenomenal outdoor guide to the area!

2nd Place: The Keene Sentinel Extraordinary Women

The Extraordinary Women magazine, devoted exclusively to local women was excellent! Beautiful design, great profiles and significant advertising presence. The associated event that partnered with a local violence prevention group and jeweler is remarkable!

3rd Place: Telegram & Gazette Worcester Magazine

Outstanding magazine highlighting local area. Elegant layout and design.

3rd Place: Gloucester Daily Times Cape Ann Magazine

Beautiful covers, good content, and amazing advertising support.

Weekly

1st Place: Lisa Lynn, Abagael Giles VT Ski & Ride

Extraordinary publication! Beautiful design and packed relevant content. A must read for skiers in the area.

2nd Place: Staff, The Inquirer and Mirror Nantucket Today

Beautiful layout and design so fitting for the island. High quality content, and enjoyable to read.

3rd Place: Greg Popa, Stowe Reporter Stowe Guide & Magazine

Great guide to Stowe. Loved the profiles and lifestyle articles.

BEST SOLUTIONS JOURNALISM PROJECT

Daily

1st Place: Hadley Barndollar, Portsmouth Herald

No Where To Go

Barndollar focused on one man's (ongoing) journey to explore the lack of sober and transitional housing in New Hampshire. The reporter is able to show statistics and possible solutions without losing the reader by weaving data on comparative programs in other states into the raw, emotional story.

2nd Place: Michael Cousineau, New Hampshire Union Leader

What's Working

The Union Leader provided an outstanding service to the community when they began publishing this series exploring a variety of workforce issues and solutions. Wide variety of topics that most employers and employees can relate to.

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Granite State News Collaborative

Follow The Money

An exceptional example of media organizations working together to provide a solutions approach to reporting on the opioid epidemic and related homeless challenges. This work provides excellent resources and information about these issues and how the funding is allocated.

2nd Place: Christopher Peak, New Haven Independent

Untold Black & Latinx History Surfaces

Congratulations to the reporter for writing on this important topic and offering it to readers. The article helped school administrators develop a plan to broaden

this initiative, and it led to this class being featured in a documentary commissioned by the State Education Resource Center.

3rd Place: Granite State News Collaborative

Remote Learning Progress Report

Excellent use of combined resources to provide solutions, suggestions and best practices for remote learning. Outstanding!

BUSINESS PAGE OR SECTION

Daily

1st Place: The Berkshire Eagle

Berkshire Business Insider

This robust business section gives readers news and information they can use. Anchor piece on Broadband is helpful was well done.

2nd Place: Patricia Thompson, The Republican

Business Monday

3rd Place: Mike Cote, Jonathan Phelps, David Lane, New Hampshire Union Leader

Powering through the pandemic

Weekly

1st Place: The Ellsworth American

Overview

The Overview of Hancock County is extraordinary! The most comprehensive, in-depth business section we've seen!

2nd Place: Greg Ryan, Boston Business Journal

No salad days for Cusi

BUSINESS PAGE OR SECTION*(continued)***Daily 1****1st Place: Staff, The Greenfield Recorder****The New Face of Farming**

A detailed look at the economics and family considerations behind an industry that is important to a region's quality of life.

2nd Place: Kyle Stucker,**Fosters Daily Democrat**

Somerset sees potential in Aclara's pending closure

3rd Place: Lauren Young,**The Milford Daily News**

CommCan's charitable donation rejected, other marijuana companies face similar struggle

BUSINESS/ECONOMIC REPORTING**Daily 2****1st Place: Grant Welker, The Lowell Sun****Market Basket fifth anniversary series**

A compelling look at a company bucking conventional wisdom in a tough business that also provides big picture context of market and technology changes in the industry.

2nd Place: Michael Cousineau,**New Hampshire Union Leader****What's Working****3rd Place: Emily Brindley,****The Hartford Courant**

Ideanomics charged into Connecticut with a lofty vision

News Services and Online News Sites**1st Place: Staff, Boston.com****Marijuana in Massachusetts: One year later**

A comprehensive and useful-to-readers look at the birth of a new industry.

2nd Place: Michael Bonner, MassLive**MassForward****3rd Place: Sarah Betancourt,****CommonWealth Magazine**

Deferred dreams for black, brown business owners

Specialty**1st Place: Bob Sanders,****New Hampshire Business Review**

Assessing the business tax burden: On the whole, property taxes are the biggest cost

Very good story demystifying corporate tax structure in NH and demolishing the myth of lower BPT and BET being better. Important fulcrum policy issue for all NH taxpayers.

2nd Place: Greg Ryan,**Boston Business Journal**

Shored up: Is the timing all wrong for New England's largest commercial port?

Important and well told story. Good sourcing. A little known port upgrade with big regional economic implications.

3rd Place: Greg Ryan,**Boston Business Journal**

Business clients are angry with Santander over PPP rollout

Reveals poor performance of large bank with big market share

BUSINESS/ECONOMIC REPORTING*(continued)***Weekly 1***1st Place: David Kindy,***Old Colony Memorial****Massachusetts' first fruit taking a hit**

First rate business story: good specific info, local, national an international perspective, and good portrayal of the human side of the business. I learned a lot about cranberries!

*2nd Place: Brian Bushard,***The Inquirer and Mirror****With ban on Single Use Plastics 10 Months****Away, Businesses Start Seeking****Alternatives**

Thorough look at the issue from all sides, with useful info sources. Getting ahead of a significant policy change and explaining what it means

*3rd Place: Hannah Normandeau,***Stowe Reporter****Saffron farming**

Well researched, informative about an exotic crop. Good portrayal of the entrepreneur.

Weekly 2*1st Place: Noah Asimow, Vineyard Gazette***Vineyard Haven's Vital Working Waterfront**

Timely, informative and a vital reminder of what is at stake. Great work. Could have benefitted by graphics/more data on sea rise.

*2nd Place: Melissa Pasanen, Seven Days***Rising Stars: How the pandemic propelled a****Vermont baking company into the national spotlight**

Perhaps because I'm always inspired by local, employee-owned companies, this was

a great read. But it also told the story well and explained what a multi-dimensional, purpose driven organization this is with good specifics and quotes.

*3rd Place: Olga Peters, Commons, The***For Jacksonville store, a new way forward**

Nice job by a weekly punching above its weight class with a thorough look at a local institution.

COMMENTARY**Daily***1st Place: William J. Kole,***The Associated Press****VIRUS DIARY: Moving closer to grandsons they can barely see**

This is a deeply affecting and well-written essay about the left hook the Covid virus aimed at the writer and his wife, who uprooted themselves in order to be closer to their grandchildren but were prevented by the virus from spending time with them.

*2nd Place: Steve Krause, The Daily Item***Life sentence for convicted murderer was not enough**

Not a journalist sitting in his ivory tower and casting judgments on an impersonal friend or foe. This grievance is personal, and it is felt in every line. Well-written, if angry.

*3rd Place: Cynthia Simison, The Republican***Patriots All, virus knows no bounds**

This examination of the deaths at a veterans home in Massachusetts goes beyond the bare numbers and examines the lives of the victims. Well-written.

COMMENTARY *(continued)***Weekly 2**

1st Place: Barry Stringfellow, Vineyard Gazette

Travels With Walter

Beautifully written piece by a writer who sheltered an injured pigeon. He invests the pigeon with human traits. A pleasure to read.

2nd Place: MacLean Gander, The Commons
Requiem for a second living room

Well-reported and sharply written piece about the owner of a dive bar who had to close because of the virus.

3rd Place: MacLean Gander, The Commons
The fire this time

A white man addresses his own feelings in the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd. Written with remarkable candor.

COMMUNITY/AUDIENCE INVOLVEMENT**Combined**

1st Place: Scott Ritter, Tim Cotter, The Day
Class of 2020

Producing a tab for graduating classes at every high school was a big undertaking, and The Day executed it flawlessly. It involved the schools, students, parents and local businesses. The poignant accompanying video with 18 students was the cherry on top! Congratulations!

2nd Place: Paul Hughes, Republican-American
Reopening Connecticut

2nd Place: Emily Turner, Boston.com
Boston.com Readers Weigh In

3rd Place: Charles Winokoor, Taunton Daily Gazette
WELCOME+Q80:X80 HOME (OFFICIALLY)
New U.S. citizens take the oath at Taunton High School

Weekly

1st Place: Erika Brown, The Manchester Cricket
Postcards Home

"Postcards Home" is a delightful and engaging audience-driven feature. It's a simple idea, but executed and presented so well that it surely was a hit with readers!

2nd Place: Phil Camp, The Vermont Standard
"Pictures in the Pandemic" Photography Competition

3rd Place: Jane Seagrave, Vineyard Gazette
Community Surveys

CRIME AND COURTS REPORTING**Daily 1**

1st Place: Staff, The Enterprise, Brockton
Whitman mourns death of mother, 2 children, grandmother in Florida crash

This is a story of unimaginable tragedy -- the death of four family members from three generations on a trip to Disney World. Every detail -- from the Bibbidi Bobbidi Boo princess makeovers to the Lego store visit -- breaks the reader's heart just a little bit more. The funeral story is a beautiful tribute to each of the victims and demonstrates the extent of this profound loss. Excellent details woven in a very well told story.

CRIME AND COURTS REPORTING*(continued)***2nd Place: Christopher Williams and Judith Meyer, Sun Journal
Former officer's drug history could compromise court case**

This reporter may have started off covering a small trial but he ended up with a much bigger story – that a Lewiston police officer was a drug addict before he died from an overdose and that his cases could be compromised. Using the Maine's Freedom of Access Act, this reporter acquired a police video that shows the officer stealing drugs from an arrest scene. Good instincts and an aggressive search for the facts led to a haunting story detailing the consequences of this officer's addiction.

**3rd Place: Staff, The Patriot Ledger
Marshfield man charged in death of girl, 13**

This is the kind of solid story that results when a reporter doggedly searches until every missing piece of the puzzle is found. Story by story, this reporter reveals details that show how one company's holiday party went tragically wrong and resulted in the deaths of two people, including a 13-year-old girl. Exceptional reporting.

Daily 2**1st Place: Staff, Republican-American
2 injured in crash with trooper**

In depth breaking news story about accident involving state trooper, very impressive coverage by news staff for months breaks open truth - state police coverup for drunken driving of one of its own.

**2nd Place: Edmund H. Mahony,
The Hartford Courant
John Durham: The low-profile Connecticut prosecutor**

Winning profile of John Durham as he pursues the most important case in the country at the time, what were the roots of the investigation into President Trump's ties to the Russians.

**3rd Place: Staff, The Hartford Courant
Police say Fotis Dulos in critical condition after attempted suicide**

Courant wins third place for its continued coverage of the Dulos case.

News Services and Online News Sites**1st Place: Christopher Peak,
New Haven Independent
Rabbi On Trial For Sexually Abusing Former Student**

In depth and solid reporting about a Rabbi on trial for sexual abuse. Handled with sensitivity for the victim.

**2nd Place: Michael Jonas,
CommonWealth Magazine
The complicated legacy of 'broken windows' policing****3rd Place (tie): Melissa Hanson, MassLive
A rise in dangerousness hearings could limit presumption of innocence****3rd Place (tie): Nancy West, InDepthNH.org
Defense Blasts AG, Seeks Dismissal in Farmington Homicide Case**

CRIME AND COURTS REPORTING

(continued)

Weekly

**1st Place: John Flowers,
Addison County Independent
Schools navigate juvenile justice**

Troubling look at underage victims that are re-traumatized by exposure to their perpetrators in school. The Independent handled this with sensitivity to the victims.

**2nd Place: Derek Brouwer, Seven Days
Taking on Titans**

In depth reporting on the frightening partnership between software companies and big pharma that robbed people of the medical care they needed, while pushing addictive narcotics as treatment. Impressive reporting.

**3rd Place (tie): Paul Heintz, Seven Days
Criminal Neglect? The death of a Black inmate at a Vermont prison**

Tragic consequences of systemic racism in prisons are revealed. Good work.

**3rd Place (tie): Kris Olson,
Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly
Criminal defense bar wary of**

Timely piece, published just before the pandemic made videoconferencing unavoidable. This story deftly outlines some of the risks.

EDITORIAL CARTOON

Combined

**1st Place: Don Landgren,
Worcester Business Journal
The opioid capital of New England**

Worcester Business Journal, "The opioid capital of New England." A follow-up to the paper's investigation of vast quantities of opioids being distributed to pharmacies, especially in Worcester. Stark, it verges on shocking, but it's well-drafted and makes its point clearly.

**2nd Place: Paul Karasik, Vineyard Gazette
Graphic Report: On Ice**

An explainer. It details how a Zamboni treats the ice at the Vineyard arena. Not the usual type of editorial cartoon, but an educational and edifying use of editorial page space.

**3rd Place: Andy Castillo,
The Greenfield Recorder
A bridge to nowhere**

The cartoon emphasizes local residents' complaint that Beacon Hill ignores their problems. The drafting borders on crude, which gives its message added strength.

EDITORIAL WRITING

Daily 1

**1st Place: Shelby Ashline, Andy Castillo,
Chris Harris, The Greenfield Recorder**

Well written editorials. Rightly shines light on "bridging our divides"

**2nd Place: Melanie Winters,
Brattleboro Reformer**

Compelling editorials addressing charged emotions. Nicely done.

**3rd Place: Andy Castillo,
The Greenfield Recorder**

Powerfully written editorials.

EDITORIAL WRITING*(continued)***Daily 2**

1st Place: Paul Choiniere, Lisa McGinley, The Day

All of these editorials are well reasoned and well written. The editorial about the school board refusing to release documentation about a teacher's inappropriate behavior is powerful!

2nd Place: Staff, The Republican
Persuasive and well written.

3rd Place: Lisa McGinley, The Day
Lisa McGinley editorials
Good writing!

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Gregory Stroud, The Connecticut Examiner
Well written editorials on local issues.

Weekly 1

1st Place: Marianne Stanton, The Inquirer and Mirror
These editorials struck the right tone for their subjects - especially "We are better than this" - well done!

2nd Place: Bill Forry, Dorchester Reporter
Well reasoned editorials that focus on the local neighborhood, but on subjects important to all of us.

3rd Place: Alex Nuti-de Biasi, Journal Opinion
Well reasoned.

3rd Place: Edward Miller, Provincetown Independent
Well written.

Weekly 2

1st Place: Greg Sukiennik, Manchester Journal
These editorials were certainly written in the right place, at the right time!

2nd Place: Angelo Lynn, Addison County Independent
Energetic and influential, these editorials hit their mark.

3rd Place: Brad Kane, Peter Stanton, Worcester Business Journal
The editorial suggesting more women seated on boards is well reasoned and speaks to the reader in a strong voice.

EDITORIAL/COMMENTARY PAGE**Daily**

1st Place: Paul Choiniere, Scott Ritter, The Day
Well written editorial on the takedown of the Columbus statue provides context. Clean crisp layout.

2nd Place: Chris Harris, Andy Castillo, The Greenfield Recorder
Strong local editorial page relevant to this community. Art enhances the layout.

3rd Place: Jesse Leavenworth, The Hartford Courant
Leavenworth injects humor and a little history lesson on an issue that was affecting most people – where to find TP!

Weekly

1st Place: Angelo Lynn, John McCright, Sue Leggett, Addison County Independent
The Addison Independent's commitment to robust editorial pages is phenomenal!

EDITORIAL / COMMENTARY PAGE

(continued)

2nd Place: Jeff Potter,

The Commons

The editorial section in The Commons is well written and persuasive. Good letters add to the variety of voices heard.

3rd Place: Staff, Provincetown Independent

Another strong editorial section! Dominant artwork adds to the pleasing layout.

EDUCATION REPORTING

Daily 1

1st Place: Mary Whitfill, The Patriot Ledger
The 'Wild West' of student social media use

Well-done eye opener about students and their use of social media. This story has a most informative chart showing who is using what. The story looks at this issue from the parents', teachers' and students' viewpoints. It simply covered it all. Excellent.

2nd Place: Hadley Barndollar,

Portsmouth Herald

What is the slavery curriculum in NH schools?

This and the third place winner were just about tied in their informative and well-written approaches to very sensitive topics. What happens in nearly all-white New Hampshire when minority students want to know their history. This very readable story delves into this topic. Good journalism.

3rd Place: Hadley Barndollar,

Portsmouth Herald

Bud Carlson Academy: NH's first 'trauma-skilled' school

This story and the second place winner, both written for Seacoast Publications, explored sensitive topics that really kept this reader's interest. A soon-to-be certified as the first trauma skilled school in the state works with students who have suffered traumas, such as homelessness, parents in prison, and drug-addicted parents. This compassionate story told their story through the students' eyes.

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Jacqueline Rabe Thomas,

The Connecticut Mirror

Education during COVID

When schools closed in Connecticut because of the pandemic, officials had to do some fast thinking about how to teach children outside the classroom. This three-part series was well researched with exceptional graphics. Good journalism.

2nd Place: Roberta Baker,

Granite State News Collaborative

Happy Sounds serves in person and online

Good use of interviews with professionals and parents to tell this story about responses to pre-school learning. Readers with young children would learn a lot from this informative story.

3rd Place: Christopher Peak,

New Haven Independent

Untold Black & Latinx History Surfaces

This story was an eye opener on a timely and important subject. African-American and Latinx students in New Haven are learning about their history but not through the voice of white historians. In fact, this class may become a model for a statewide elective course on African-American and Latinx history.

EDUCATION REPORTING

(continued)

Weekly 2

**1st Place: Michael Kitch,
New Hampshire Business Review
New Hampshire still struggling in search for
school-funding solution**

This is a topic not always easy for a reporter to tackle and the reader to understand. But this story was well-researched, well-written, giving the reader the data and information needed to understand how their schools are funded and why. Excellent.

**2nd Place: Grant Welker,
Worcester Business Journal
Boom times for Central Mass. college
endowments**

The reporter went out and found how much money is going to local colleges. I loved all the charts.

**3rd Place: Johanna Billings,
The Ellsworth American
Rural schools struggle to recruit 080819**

This story about recruiting teachers in northern Maine must present a microcosm of teacher recruitment around the country. Well written with good interviews.

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING

Daily

**1st Place: Jeannette Hinkle and Cesareo
Contreras, The MetroWest Daily News
Torrential Change**

This multi-part series on the structural problems with area dams as a result of age and climate change made use of excellent graphs and charts, and the photography was beautiful. First-rate journalism.

**2nd Place: Staff, The Berkshire Eagle
Rest of River settlement**

A long-awaited deal to clean up industrial pollution in the Housatanic River resulted in well-written stories and good use of timelines and data that enabled the reader to navigate a complex story.

**3rd Place: Jack Rooney, The Keene Sentinel
NH's oldest known eagle**

At 23, GoldW84 is New Hampshire's oldest documented eagle. This was a delicious feature full of information on aging eagles and their breeding habits. Thoroughly enjoyable.

Weekly 1

**1st Place: Paul Benson,
Provincetown Independent
Buildings Are Raised Against Future Floods**

A rich investigation in to the effects of climate change on this coastal community and the controversial raising of buildings.

**2nd Place (tie): James Behke,
The Manchester Cricket
The Species of Cape Ann**

Excellent! The Manchester Cricket provides a great public service educating its readers about the local wildlife and the effects from climate change and other environmental challenges. Stunning photography throughout the series!

**2nd Place (tie): Brian Bushard,
The Inquirer and Mirror
OCEARCH demystifying the lives of Great
White Sharks**

Fascinating piece on OCEARCH efforts to study sharks. Enlightening information about the impact they have on fisheries and the overall ocean system.

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING

(continued)

3rd Place: Brian Bushard and John Lavenburg, The Inquirer and Mirror
Cancer-causing chemicals found in well water from airport's firefighting foam
 Extremely good reporting on serious local health issue from airport chemicals. Good accountability journalism!

Weekly 2

1st Place: Emma Cotton,
Addison County Independent
The Giving Stream

2nd Place: Kevin McCallum, Seven Days
Carbon Quandry: In a Warming World, New Thinking Imperils Vermont's Wood-Fueled Energy Market

3rd Place: Louisa Hufstader,
Vineyard Gazette
Andrew Woodruff is Back on the Farm, This Time Without a Tractor

EVENT SPECIAL SECTION

Weekly 2

1st Place: Staff, Vineyard Gazette
August 2, 2019 B Section - Book Festival
 Outstanding special section created for the Martha's Vineyard Book Festival. Beautiful design and so well written.

2nd Place: staff, The Ellsworth American
Graduation section
 Hats off to the Ellsworth American for their 40-page graduation section. Inviting design, entertaining content and so much advertising support!

EXCELLENCE IN NEWSROOM COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Combined

1st Place: Derek Brouwer, Andrea Suozzo, Emily Corwin, Seven Days

Worse for Care

Seven Days and Vermont Public Radio provided an outstanding public service by collaborating on this project. The extensive research and dive into public records to assess eldercare service in Vermont is extraordinary. Well done.

2nd Place: Alan J. Keays and Peter Hirschfeld, VTDigger.org
How the Kiah Morris case gripped Vermont, but hasn't changed anything

Terrific collaboration between VTDigger and Vermont Public Radio. Superb investigative journalism holding the powerful accountable and reaching an extended audience with their shared resources.

3rd Place: Karen Florin, The Day
Conversations on Race

Excellent partnership with local colleges on an important topic.

FOOD PAGE OR SECTION

Daily 1

1st Place: Andy Castillo,
The Greenfield Recorder
As traditional as apple pie

Your paper and your community should be proud of this section: It is an exemplar of food coverage at the local level. These stories are grounded in place and reported with enthusiasm: Thank you for sharing them.

FOOD PAGE OR SECTION

(continued)

2nd Place: Staff, The Berkshire Eagle
"What is it and how do I use it?"

Food coverage is sometimes delivered from on high: It's refreshing when editors and writers give credence to their readers' perspective, as in this fun story. Nice use of imagery as well.

3rd Place: Staff, The Berkshire Eagle
"Create your own picture-perfect cheese plate"

Important topics and great graphic treatment. My only concern is the writer implies he's in the cheese-selling business: It would be great to identify his affiliation so this package wouldn't have an advertising undertone.

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Gregory Stroud,
The Connecticut Examiner

A First Stab at the Best Beef in Connecticut
 All of the entries in this category are essentially equal. but selecting this story for distinction because it has a clear takeaway lesson for readers -- sign me up for Beriah Lewis' CSA -- and lovely photos.

FRONT PAGE

Daily 1

1st Place: Mark Sutherland,
The Daily Item

Is there a silver bullet for gun control
 Powerful front page that captures the reader immediately.

2nd Place: Mark Sutherland, Spenser Hasak, Olivia Falcigno, The Daily Item
The Essentials

Stellar, unique front page design.

3rd Place: Staff, The Patriot Ledger
Patriot Ledger front page: 'I think God would be pleased.'

Excellent use of typography and design.

Daily 2

1st Place: Tom Lynch,
New Hampshire Union Leader
Quarantine and alcohol

Bold design and eye-catching graphic.

2nd Place: Jim Flynn, Republican-American
 Thorough package of reporting, graphical elements provide clear organization. Well done!

3rd Place: John Ruddy, The Day
Confronting the Coronavirus
 One giant leap for The Day!

Weekly

1st Place: Jennifer Levesque,
Valley Advocate

Fifty Years from Now

Creative montage - immediately draws the reader in.

2nd Place: Stephen Durkee,
Vineyard Gazette

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Use of this strong image filling the page created a dramatic front page

3rd Place: Anne Ewing, Lisa LaGreca,
Providence Business News
Isle of Anxiety

Striking depiction of the general state of mind during the pandemic.

GENERAL NEWS STORY

Daily 1

1st Place: Greta Jochem,

Daily Hampshire Gazette

Digging for the truth: Roundabout project stirs archaeological hunt, lawsuit and public outcry

In lively and learned prose, "Digging for the truth" finds the clash between modern street intersections and and prehistoric sites. Who is the hero here? And what is ancient knowledge worth? What a joy to read.

2nd Place: Charles Winokoor,

Taunton Daily Gazette

DOWNTOWN BUSINESS OWNERS BRACE FOR TODAY'S PROTEST RALLY

in a crowded field of entries showcasing fine journalism, the Gazette writes about plans for a next day protest march; weighing the risks, underscoring free speech. Many, many voices, expectant voices, wary voices in the parade of democracy.

3rd Place: Gail McCarthy,

Gloucester Daily Times

Making connections in an era of isolation: Bottle with messages from Maine found

In a story about a message in a bottle, The Daily Times takes us from a young boy in Maine to a Gloucester fisherman to the first known note in a bottle thrown into the waves off ancient Greece. What enterprise. A delightful story.

Daily 2

1st Place: Haven Orecchio-Egrestiz,

The Berkshire Eagle

'Demystifying' drug-injection sites

Crisp, clear show me, not tell me, writing. Finding solutions in a Canadian city to

problems in Pittsfield is enterprising reporting and storytelling at its best.

2nd Place: Doug Fraser, **Cape Cod Times**
From fun to fear

spine-chilling, excellent writing. You can see people punching sharks in the nose, which miraculously it seemed, made the attackers let go of their victims. A clear warning to visitors through the power of storytelling.

3rd Place: McCormick, Hinkle, Ballantyne, **Cape Cod Times**

More transparency sought in nursing home deaths

This piece stands out among the myriad entries on nursing home deaths from COVID. Effective show me journalism.

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Mark Pazniokas,

The Connecticut Mirror

The night COVID-19 silenced the slots at Foxwoods

Evocative. Great imagery and storytelling. Reads like good fiction with intriguing characters yet it is all true.

2nd Place: Nik DeCosta-Klipa, **Boston.com**
Ed Markey 'ain't no Bernie.'

As political profiles go, this piece exceeds expectations. A warm, but fact-filled biography of the U.S. Senator.

3rd Place: Kelan Lyons,

The Connecticut Mirror

Inmates seeking compassionate release face laws not built for COVID-19

"Compassionate release" is well defined in this piece about crime and sickness. A fine-tooth-comb look at a system trying not to be broken.

GENERAL NEWS STORY*(continued)***Specialty***1st Place: Grant Welker,***Worcester Business Journal****Worcester's economy is catching up**

Excellent analysis and presentation of the economics in Worcester County.

*2nd Place: Susan Geier,***New Hampshire Business Review****New Hampshire nonprofits in a battle to survive**

The writer did a great job outlining the consequences of the pandemic on the region's nonprofits.

*3rd Place: Jennifer Huberdeau,***UpCountry Magazine****Whatever happened to 'fancy' maple syrup**

Light-hearted approach to examining the maple syrup industry. Excellent presentation!

Weekly*1st Place: Kate Cough,***The Ellsworth American****Finances, staffing issues plagued**

Solid reporting and writing deficiencies and mismanagement of treatment center.

*2nd Place: Chelsea Edgar, Seven Days***How Can We Help You? During the Pandemic, Vermont's Mutual Aid Groups Lend a Hand**

Well written and researched piece on effects of the pandemic on the most vulnerable and how local organizations and businesses are stepping in to help.

*3rd Place: Staff, Seven Days***Cut the Police: The Bid To Slash Law Enforcement in Vermont**

In depth reporting on issues, reactions and consequences related to the defund the police movement.

GOVERNMENT REPORTING**Daily***1st Place: Mary Whitfill, The Patriot Ledger*
QUINCY'S SPENDING SPREE

Story shows strong enterprise reporting in exposing how much tax money Quincy is spending to buy property. Context shows Quincy spending ahead even of much-larger Boston on such purchases. Some of the property lies fallow, and some purchases have taken taxable real estate off the city's tax rolls. Well done.

2nd Place: Staff, The Republican
COVID-19 crisis at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home

Generally laudable job of following this tragedy and key news story. Fair, balanced coverage.

*3rd Place: Emily Brindley,***The Hartford Courant****Fired Simsbury town employee says officials tried to fake reasons for termination**

Report evidences examination of documents and multiple comments to produce a detailed and balanced report about an interesting and troubling controversy. Indicates problematic behavior by town manager and others.

GOVERNMENT REPORTING

(continued)

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Keith M. Phaneuf, Jacqueline Rabe Thomas, The Connecticut Mirror Partnership with a Billionaire

Well-written and well-reported pursuit of the start and eventual dissolution of a well-intended but flawed public-private partnership to improve public education. Stories detailed in a clear, balanced way how a questionable decision to keep the partnership exempt from public disclosure and how the billionaire partner's pulling strings on the partnership derailed the venture. CT Mirror pressed for public records and carefully chronicled the flaws in this initiative and exposed a questionable golden parachute award to the newly-named executive director of the partnership who clashed with key principals.

2nd Place: Cate Hewitt, The Connecticut Examiner Town Meeting With Two Votes And Two Different Results Erupts in Chaos

Routine meeting coverage that is difficult to follow from the start. References are made without context, as though assuming that readers will know what they mean, a faulty assumption in any news story.

2nd Place: Shira Schoenberg, Commonwealth Magazine Is Karyn Polito angling for a third term - or a first?

Well-rounded, well-reported profile. Includes comment from a broad and balanced spectrum. Telling anecdotes back up this portrait of Polito.

3rd Place: Benjamin Kail, MassLive Under President Trump, taxpayer-backed White House social media accounts regularly attack rivals

Meticulous scouring of official Trump White House social media posts that show violations of federal Hatch Act and ethically questionable attacks on political rivals, even if they are not barred by law.

Specialty

1st Place: Nancy Lavin, Elizabeth Graham, Providence Business News The Flare-Up Over Solar

Comprehensive, fair and balanced look at topical issue of renewable energy. Good art and excellent infographics in chart about solar sites and map of wind turbines.

2nd Place: Steve Adams, Banker & Tradesman Open for Business, or Business as Usual?

Solid exploration of what seems to be an under-reported topic that has strong potential to bring income to state government and for economic development. Two questions unanswered: Why doesn't state know how many parcels it has sold? Did the state sell or give the Salem courtouse to that city? No cutline on one of the photos.

3rd Place: Greg Ryan, Boston Business Journal State targets dozens of businesses over alleged Covid-19 violations

Informative topical piece, obtained by pursuing a public records request. Detailed account that outlines the violation orders issued by the state and how many of them were resolved without penalty.

GOVERNMENT REPORTING

(continued)

Weekly 2

1st Place: Ethan Shorey, Valley Breeze **NP officials 'sick' over home approved on tiny lot**

Newspaper provoked a second look by local officials into an apparently flawed and incorrect approval for a house to be built on a too-small lot. Thorough reporting in a clearly-presented account.

2nd Place: Tommy Gardner, News & Citizen **Town changes policy after violating it**

Snappy lead. The newspaper pressed this issue, as evidenced in story, and rightly so. Town officials come off as nonchalant about this issue -- one that seems appropriate even though the town changed the same policy it violated.

3rd Place: Paul Heintz, Seven Days **Mainframe of Shame**

Highly readable examination and exposure of a waste of \$10.5 million in public money on a failed project to replace an antiquated computer system.

HEADLINE WRITING

Daily

1st Place: John Ruddy, The Day Tasty and inviting headlines!

2nd Place: Charles LeClerc, The Republican **Time to Lego of the past** Clever and fun.

3rd Place: Linda Roy, The Standard-Times **What's with the red flags in the Dartmouth woods? Here's the poop.**

Red flags always draw attention. Yuck, but effective!

Weekly

1st Place: Staff, Seven Days

Best Headlines

These bright, clever headlines invite readers in.

2nd Place: Edward Miller, Howard Karren, Teresa Parker, Provincetown Independent Skillful headline writing! Well done.

2nd Place: Bill Eville, Vineyard Gazette **Headline Writing**

Engaging and appealing headlines.

3rd Place: Linda Duxbury, Journal Opinion **Light-fingered thieves take heavy press**

You just have to read the story with this headline.

HEALTH REPORTING

Daily 1

1st Place: Lindsay Tice, Sun Journal **Marshwood: Regulators focus on nursing home as problems mount**

After the Sun Journal reported on complaints filed against Marshwood, dozens of readers contacted the paper with their own stories of violations. The solid reporting and deep dive from the paper resulted in the nursing home being more closely scrutinized by the Dept of Health and placed on a special focus facility list.

HEALTH REPORTING

(continued)

2nd Place: **Jessica Trufant,**
The Patriot Ledger

A TOXIC PLAYGROUND

This well written piece exposes the ramifications of toxic chemicals in this Hanover neighborhood, and tells the tragic stories of the many residents who have been with diagnosed with a variety of cancers from their exposure.

3rd Place (tie): **Grace Bird, Andy Castillo,**
The Greenfield Recorder

Medically underserved

Clear and compelling examination of the varied reasons for the shortage of doctors in Western Massachusetts, and the implications on the the community. This investigation was a great service to the readers.

3rd Place (tie): **Dave Eisenstadter,**
Daily Hampshire Gazette

Building community through loss

Moving coverage of building support for families who have suffered miscarriages. Beautifully told and handled with compassion.

Daily 2

1st Place: **Roberta Baker, Boston Globe**
Eating disorders: how an epidemic is expanding and striking younger

Health writing doesn't get much better than this. Extremely readable which helps convey the critically important details being presented. Rich sourcing and a multitude of resources showcased to support those affected.

2nd Place: **Amanda Drane, Haven Orecchio-Egresitz, The Berkshire Eagle**

Point... and counterpoint: Could supervised injection sites work in Berkshire County?

A spectacular presentation of the pros and cons of addressing the opioid epidemic locally, with overlapping state, national, and global details all woven perfectly into the story line. This is an expertly presented public service health feature.

3rd Place: **Tracey O'Shaughnessy,**
Republican-American

Women surgeons not made welcome

Kudos to the writer for recognizing and responding to this national trend with a source rich and engaging feature complimented by a compelling pull-out and graphic elements.

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: **Jenna Carlesso,**
The Connecticut Mirror

Complaints pile up against health care sharing ministries

With health care costs skyrocketing, people look for less expensive alternatives. CT Mirror's extensive investigation and FOI requests helped reveal how Connecticut residents are being defrauded and left deep in debt by healthcare sharing ministries. Top notch journalism!

2nd Place: **Anne Galloway, Katie Jickling,**
VTDigger.org

Covering Vermont's All Payer Health Care Experiment

A key question facing health care systems everywhere is how to control costs. VTDigger thoroughly covered the OneCare system in Vermont over more than 30 stories, revealing how the inadequate oversight is costing tax payers many millions of dollars.

HEALTH REPORTING*(continued)**3rd Place (tie): William J. Kole,***The Associated Press****Venerable but vulnerable: Centenarians hit hard by virus**

Touching tribute to the loss of our most treasured and vulnerable citizens taken away by COVID. Beautifully written.

*3rd Place (tie): Sarah Betancourt and***Shira Schoenberg,****CommonWealth Magazine****What's behind the testing bottleneck**

CommonWealth Magazine was way ahead of the curve diggin in to the scarcity and long waits for COVID-19 tests. Well sourced and researched piece that shed light on the lack of available testing capabilities and what to expect when you finally can get a test.

Specialty*1st Place: Bob Sanders,***New Hampshire Business Review****New Hampshire's Canadian conundrum:**

Important reporting on prescription drug prices in NH - so close to the Canadian border. Clearly lays out the proposed bills for prescription costs. Good graphics showing increases over time.

*2nd Place: Allison DeAneglis, Boston Business Journal***Moderna vaccine coverage**

Thorough and consistent coverage of the steps leading to approved vaccines for COVID. Impressive reporting on the business aspect of the vaccine.

*3rd Place: Mary MacDonald,***Providence Business News****No Panacea**

RI was a leader in early testing. Large employers were discouraged from testing all of their employees.

*3rd Place: Grant Welker,***Worcester Business Journal****Cutting at the top**

Profiling of health care executives and institutions is smart and interesting. Well written, with good graphics.

Weekly*1st Place: Susannah Elisabeth Fulcher,***Sophie Ruehr, Provincetown Independent****Childbirth on the Edge**

Critical information about childbirth options (or lack of) on the Cape. Because of Indie's story, local midwife was re-hired. Well done!

*1st Place: Noah Asimow, Vineyard Gazette***At the Forefront of Decoding Dyslexia**

Illuminating piece about the couple that run the Yale center for dyslexia and their work. Informative and inspiring information about dyslexia.

*2nd Place: John Flowers,***Addison County Independent****Addiction recovery programs go online**

Isolation to stop the spread of the virus, but at what cost? The Addison Independent takes a deep dive to tell the toll that it takes on those in addiction recovery, and provides information for how to stay connected with support groups.

*3rd Place: Paul Benson,***Provincetown Independent****Medical Weed May Not Reach Outer Cape**

Enlightening information about the difference between recreational and medical marijuana dispensaries.

HISTORY REPORTING

Daily 1

1st Place: Art Illman,

The MetroWest Daily News

Glasnost Revisited: 30th anniversary of Waltham Legion band's trip to the USSR

This is as close to a perfect fit for this category as you could find - and could well serve as an example of what any publication should strive for in terms of history reporting. What a gem for MWDN readers - an extremely well written, and compelling read that is made exponentially better with all the accompanying and well placed imaging. Fantastic work on the part of Art Illman!

2nd Place: Sean Horgan,

Gloucester Daily Times

1918 flu pandemic on Cape Ann

A spectacularly woven narrative, beautifully scripted, quick reading, informative and gripping. The series sequencing worked well day-to-day with good balance in each piece and a well designed graphic tracker reminding readers what they missed and what was to come.

3rd Place: Steve Pfarrer,

Daily Hampshire Gazette

The local press, from Shay's Rebellion to the digital age

Telling the story of the publication that chronicled the area's 'first draft of history' is so critically important for readers and residents to develop a greater appreciation for that news source in the modern era. Kudos for capturing it in such a well written and easy to consume retrospective!

Daily 2

1st Place: John Ruddy, The Day

Bootleggers and rumrunners

Wonderful writing capturing a digested version of vintage news reports in a very readable segmented style. A great reflection on how a national movement historically impacted a Connecticut port city and its fledgling Coast Guard.

2nd Place: Shawne K. Wickham,

New Hampshire Union Leader

Survivor from NH shares the story

Great witness eye view of a lesser known tragedy of war - containing equal parts drama, sadness, relief, and clearly described details - it transports the reader to through experience of this lucid participant.

I love the wall advocacy element as well.

3rd Place: Jennifer Huberdeau,

The Berkshire Eagle

"Was the Berkshire Gold Rush an elaborate hoax?"

Charmingly told and provocative with delightful characters and highly readable interplay between extracted historical passages and the reporter's creative content.

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Dialynn Dwyer, Boston.com

At South Station, a reminder of the past that keeps ticking through the present

A delightful piece - educational, entertaining, well-paced, and informative. Excellent mix of sources and perspective along with real-time narrative. Fantastic reporting!

HISTORY REPORTING*(continued)***2nd Place: Cate Hewitt,
The Connecticut Examiner
Palmer Warner House**

An interesting and easy read - but important reporting highlighting this historic property and its role in national LGBTQ history. Bravo!

**3rd Place: Jordyn Haime,
Granite State News Collaborative
Racism and pandemics**

While this piece certainly qualifies as it details historical information, little more historical perspective would have served the reader better. Proportion of historical vs contemporary details could be more balanced.

Weekly 1**1st Place: Scooter MacMillan,
Shelburne News
Abenaki leader reflects on effects of
eugenics movement**

This reflection on Vermont's dark past of sterilizing Abenaki was well written. Combining one family's story with the push for an apology from lawmakers, the writer reveals how many Abenaki are still hesitant to reveal their heritage.

**2nd Place: Orestes G. Brown,
The Manchester Cricket
A Local Woman's Club, The VNA and A
Deadly Virus**

An engaging feature that does a wonderful job saluting the 110-year old Manchester Woman's Club and Visiting Nurses Association. Taking the reader on a journey beginning with WWI and through the 1918 Epidemic, the writer reminds us that we can

make it through the COVID epidemic - we have been here before.

**3rd Place: Christopher Haraden,
The Hull Times
WBZ radio transmitter**

Nice blend of historical background and entertaining memories shared by readers to commemorate the anniversary of the tower. Well done!

Weekly 2**1st Place: Colin Flanders, Seven Days
Cast Away: Refugee Who Survived the
'Voyage of the Damned'**

Heartrending recollection of 95-year old woman who survived the 'Voyage of the Damned' - explores the plight of European Jews when trying to escape from Nazi Germany and the indifference from the West. The writer delicately weaves her personal story with historical facts.

**2nd Place (tie): Noah Asimow,
Vineyard Gazette
Shabby to Chic**

Engaging piece on how Martha's Vineyard went from a sleepy town to an International destination spot. Well done!

**2nd Place (tie): Olga Peters, The Commons
What's in a name?**

Thought provoking article exploring the cultural significance of renaming - or not - Negro Brook. Well researched and appealing presentation.

**3rd Place: Lauren Clem, Valley Breeze
In Woonsocket, there's a rich story of black
migration**

Nice blend of historical background on the migration of Black residents and their contributions and struggles in the community.

HUMAN INTEREST FEATURE STORY

Daily 1

**1st Place: Paul Cuno-Booth,
The Keene Sentinel
Leo DiPalma**

A beautifully told tribute to the life and service of a WWII soldier, painfully reminding us of the losses inflicted by COVID-19. It's so important to capture the stories of those lost to the pandemic, and Leo DiPalma's story is extraordinary.

**2nd Place: Susan Smallheer,
Brattleboro Reformer
He's cosmopolitan, urbane and a country doctor through and through**

What a lovely story of a rural Vermont doctor who could be anywhere he wants to be -- and he is, going on well past four decades.

**3rd Place: Anita Fritz,
The Greenfield Recorder
Matt Kim's School of Rock**

Matt Kim's story is so classic, a musician who is a teacher at heart, a shaper of other future musicians. Anita Fritz's piece captures Kim's passion for teaching young people and his effective style in reaching them.

Daily 2

**1st Place: Craig Semon, Telegram & Gazette
Special delivery postcard**

This is an incredible tale of a 101-year-old postcard and how it made its way to the grandson of the sailor pictured on that card. What a miracle for the postcard, recounting Lawrence Fisk's bout with the Spanish flu, to find its way back to his family.

**2nd Place: Josie Albertson-Grove,
New Hampshire Union Leader
Dunbarton mothers struggle to make sense of children's deaths**

A heart-breaking story of two mothers struggling to understand the murder-suicide of their son and daughter. Theirs is a journey to understanding signs of mental illness, with many what-ifs that can't be answered.

**3rd Place: Beth Treffeisen, Cape Cod Times
Young families survive on Cape Cod through shellfish**

The story gives readers a clear sense of time and place -- a way of life in Wellfleet, where a small group of young families work to make at living at shellfishing. The writer gives us a glimpse inside an industry that's not for everyone.

News Services and Online News Sites

**1st Place: Mark Pazniokas,
The Connecticut Mirror
She worked at a hotspot**

What a painful story of a frontline worker who feels certain she brought home the coronavirus that killed her mother. The writer makes real the human story of loss that's hidden in daily numbers reporting.

**2nd Place: Dialynn Dwyer, Boston.com
These businesses have weathered decades of change in Harvard Square.**

This piece is driven by the voices of small-business owners facing an uncertain future - - and not for the first time. Their individual histories offer a compelling sense of time and place of Harvard Square.

HUMAN INTEREST FEATURE STORY

(continued)

**3rd Place: Sheryl-Rich Kern,
Granite State News Collaborative
Community Colleges Offering More Than
Education**

Here's a thorough exploration of the unique ways the pandemic has hit community college students hard, including important context on needs specific to these students.

Specialty

**1st Place: Craig Semon,
Worcester Magazine
In their own words**

The writing is not great and the construction a bit messy, but Craig Semon's reporting is absolutely fearless in this man-on-the-street treatment of panhandlers working the streets of Worcester. In an age of digital journalism where interviews are routinely conducted via email, Semon boldly ventures where most would fear to tread – meeting society's deplorables at their own level and in their own environment. This is powerful stuff, raw and unfiltered, with the prospect of homelessness, substance abuse, predatory behavior and mental health challenges literally on every street corner. Semon's ability to connect with these rag-tag subjects and elicit thoughtful, often noble, observations about their daily struggles is simply extraordinary. Some voices embody horror and heartbreak; others express human dignity and hope for a better future. Yet all speak with an authentic desperation that forces readers to sit up and take notice. Semon and the entire team at Worcester Magazine should be proud.

**2nd Place: Jessica Bartlett,
Boston Business Journal
From the front lines: An eerie emptiness in
the hospital hallways**

Props for a different kind of narrative, as seen through nurse Mark Brodeur's eyes during the early days of the COVID pandemic. This is sophisticated writing. Subtle and effective. Jessica Bartlett sets the right tone by focusing on one nurse during a single shift at Berkshire Medical Center (although with the world's top medical teams literally on their doorstep, one wonders how and why Boston Business Journal opted for a vignette from a Pittsfield hospital). Bartlett displays her mastery of detail in a memorable sequence chronicling the painstaking, meticulous steps Brodeur uses to prepare his protective equipment for an environment where carelessness could have life-and-death consequences. Her slow, deliberate pacing synchs perfectly with the subject matter, and the mental imagery of Brodeur reassuring an anxious patient in a "warm, latex grip" (because multiple masks, goggles and face shields obscured his own facial cues) is indelible. Well done!

Weekly 1

**1st Place: Rob Kiener, Stowe Reporter
Bambi Freeman**

Robert Kiener's take on Vermont sheep farmer Bambi Freeman showcases the best writing in the human interest feature category, head and shoulders above other entries. Young reporters could learn much here. It's clear that Kiener is not only a superb writer, but a keen observer as well – with details that jump off the page and bring this feisty octogenarian to life. He is particularly skilled in employing quotes – with restraint, yet always positioned for maximum effect. His 7th graf (straddling the jump to page 95) is especially striking in this

HUMAN INTEREST FEATURE STORY

(continued)

regard; four crisp, stellar quotes from Freeman's contemporaries strung together to capture the essence of Freeman's irrepressible personality. It's an unorthodox approach, but very effective! Kiener also wisely structures his profile in three distinct sections: the first introduces us to the subject, then transitions to a middle brace chronicling her health issues and other mid-life challenges, before returning to a present-day setting to show Freeman reaping the fruits of her labors. This piece is by no means perfect, and Kiener occasionally indulges in run-on sentences that grate on an old editor's sensibilities. But that's a minor gripe. More important, by far, is that readers are given an opportunity to meet Bambi Freeman in all her effervescence. And when it comes to feature writing, it doesn't get any better than that.

**2nd Place: Geoff Currier,
The Martha's Vineyard Times
Dispatches from Woodstock nation**

A light-hearted (if somewhat romanticized) trip down memory lane with a series of first-person accounts from the Woodstock generation of Martha's Vineyard – no doubt fertile ground for just such a retrospective. Loved the headline fonts – very cool and evocative of those late-1960s summers of love – and the vintage photos of participants were terrific. The decision to present these reflections as short capsules with minimal narrative voicing was likewise spot on, although some received short shrift. Not sure if subjects submitted their own anecdotes after newspaper announced the project, or if information was compiled by phone, email or in-person interviews, but

the result was decidedly uneven. In particular, the narrative on Martina and Kenny Mastromonaco deserved better. Also, huge lead-in display featuring stock wire photo was unnecessary.

**3rd Place: Brian Bushard,
The Inquirer and Mirror
"Forged in Fire" Features Keaton Goddard**

Staff writer Brian Bushard has a good time slicing and dicing his way through this profile on local blade baron Keaton Goddard, who ditched a sales job to focus on making hand-crafted knives and swords. Publication was timed to advance the subject's appearance on the popular "Forged in Fire" cable program, and after reading this lively narrative one suspects that many readers made a point of tuning in. Bushard gets things off on the right foot by making good use of a particularly punchy quote to back up two introductory grafs chock full of colorful details. Throughout the piece he does a fine job transitioning from narrative passages to quotes from Goddard, and back again. Rather than just telling us that crafting a good knife can take 4-5 hours, and a sword up to 80 hours, Bushard might have considered a sidebar walking readers through the forging process. In addition, there are some obvious holes in the story. How, actually, does Goddard earn a living? As a "full-time blacksmith," does he generate income from more conventional work apart from forging blades? What attracted him to this particular hobby in the first place? And most of all, what do these hand-crafted beauties sell for and who buys them?

HUMAN INTEREST FEATURE STORY*(continued)***Weekly 2****1st Place: Noah Asimow, Vineyard Gazette
Boch Park Reimagined as Private Bird
Sanctuary**

Automotive scion turned part-time philanthropist Ernie Boch Jr. is known for his quirky eccentricities. And staff writer Noah Asimow gives Boch ample rein to showcase his quirky side while simultaneously chronicling the businessman's efforts to develop a (private) three-acre bird sanctuary on Martha's Vineyard. In Asimow's capable hands, readers are never quite sure if the would-be sanctuary is a vanity project, a public-spirited stab at environmental philanthropy or simply an attempt by Boch to feather his own nest. But that's all part of the narrative's quirky charm. Coincidentally (or perhaps not), the sanctuary saga also shines a light on some familiar quirks of local government – and illustrates how, in this case, zoning, inspection and conservation interests converged to affect small-town decision making. Asimow's reporting is precise and thorough in documenting the winding, at times tortuous, logic used by various officials in permitting the avian project. Floating above it all, of course, is Ernie Boch himself, professing civic-mindedness while keeping his bird sanctuary off-limits to the public. Ernie's having a grand old time, but so is Asimow, who deftly serves up the straight news essentials without spoiling the fun. Bravo!

**2nd Place: Andrew Martin, News & Citizen
To save its 150 year old farm, Hyde Park
family turns to goats**

Andrew Martin's writing could be crisper, but his feature treatment on the 150-year-

old Jones family farm in Hyde Park personalizes what has become a sad chapter for many Vermont communities: the collapse of dairy farming. In Vermont, where tradition runs strong and dairy has long been a way of life, this story has been told before. But Martin adds a new twist, explaining how two fifth-generation Jones brothers take a calculated risk to salvage the family legacy by auctioning off their Holsteins and replacing them with goats. Their logic – and the math – are sound. Goat milk is more profitable, pricing is more stable and a goat-based operation is easier on the environment. Martin neatly summarizes these and other benefits, adding context and nuance to help readers understand what the Jones brothers already know: the only constant is change and survival sometimes rests on a willingness to pivot towards an uncertain future. It's a lesson those of us in community newspapering should well appreciate.

**3rd Place: Jordan Adams, Seven Days
What's the Story With the 'Dad Mailbox' in
Hinesburg?**

Not exactly a feature story, or even a column, Jordan Adams nonetheless hits a sweet spot with this out-of-the-box treatment of a local curiosity: a little-known mailbox located in a Hinesburg, Vt. park. What to make of this oddity? It's not exactly a secret, yet situated off the beaten path in a place no self-respecting mailbox has reason to be? Adorned only with the word "Dad," the mailbox apparently serves as a receptacle for personal messages which park-goers write to their fathers, living and deceased. Adams is intrigued, and through dogged sleuthing connects with a local resident who admits to installing it after the death of his father a decade earlier – one presumes, as a means of working through

HUMAN INTEREST FEATURE STORY

(continued)

grief. The surprise is that others, without knowing the mailbox's origins, likewise use it to cathartic effect. Part detective yarn, this piece really explores relationships between fathers and their children -- and the halting, sometimes awkward, conversations which come to define them. There is a lot to unpack here, but Jordan doesn't flinch from the conflicting emotions of family dynamics. As he poignantly concludes, "Years from now, I hope my kids will visit the mailbox."

HUMOR COLUMNIST

Combined

1st Place: Saralee Perel, Cape Cod Times
Bob takes a stand - but I don't like it
The upshots of this stay-at-home business
 Saralee Perel's writing is pure delight!

2nd Place: Alice Coyle,
Old Colony Memorial
Go ask Alice column
 Go ask Alice is entertaining and relatable!

3rd Place: Brenda Kelley Kim,
Marblehead Reporter
Not The Same Old Thing
 Brenda Kelley Kim is definitely not the same old thing. Her writing is sunny and refreshing!

3rd Place: Lindsey Hollenbaugh,
The Berkshire Eagle
"Quarantined with kids"
 Lindsey's writing is light and humorous and reminds us not to take life so seriously!

ILLUSTRATION/INFOGRAPHICS

Combined

1st Place: Jason Rathbun, Sun Journal
A million bucks for a fire truck. Yep, and here's why
 Exceptional infographic!

2nd Place: Evan J. Berkowitz,
The Berkshire Eagle
Quid Pro Quo
 Eye-catching!

3rd Place: Scott Ritter, The Day
Inner Workings
 Outstanding detail!

INNOVATOR AWARD

Daily 1

1st Place: Staff, The Keene Sentinel
 First place Innovator Award goes to The Keene Sentinel for their intense, extensive and praise worthy dive in to subscription efforts. The newspaper put together a vigorous customer service plan to reach former, current and new subscribers in a variety of ways. Their multi-layered approach paid off in both readership and revenue growth.

2nd Place: Staff, The Republican
 Bravo to The Republican for their One People, One House community dialogue efforts. Good work!

INVESTIGATIVE / ENTERPRISE REPORTING

Daily

1st Place: Joe Difazio, The Patriot Ledger
WHY DID SCHOOL DELAY REPORTING ALLEGED ABUSE?

An excellent piece of accountability journalism. This story raises and answers the most important questions about who knew what and when along with what wasn't done that should have been done.

Great work.

2nd Place: Bruno Matarazzo Jr., Republican-American
Investigations not adding up

A great example of dogged reporting paying off and holding the powerful accountable. Excellent work.

3rd Place: Kathi Scrizzi Driscoll and Ethan Genter, Cape Cod Times
Emails indicate knowledge of Jeffrey Epstein cover-up

A thorough examination of the connections that exist between a local nonprofit executive and a national scandal. No stone was left unturned in this superb piece of in-depth reporting.

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Jacqueline Rabe Thomas, The Connecticut Mirror
Separated by Design

An excellent investigative series that tackles an issue that has been ignored for far too long. Combining data analysis with shoe leather reporting, the reporters uncover the depth of despair surrounding government sanctioned housing segregation. Bravo!

2nd Place: Jenna Carlesso, Keith Phaneuf, Jacqueline Rabe, The Connecticut Mirror
Crisis in CT Nursing Homes

This investigative series holds the powerful accountable for not doing enough to protect Connecticut's most vulnerable residents. Excellent reporting.

3rd Place: Nancy West, InDepthNH.org
NH's Police-Involved Shootings

Solid reporting on an important issue facing NH and every other state in the nation.

Weekly 1

1st Place: Staff, Old Colony Memorial
Fire Station Failures - a series

An excellent piece of solid investigative reporting that hold officials accountable. Emily Clark's exhaustive reporting exposed deplorable living conditions for firefighters harmful to their health

2nd Place (tie): Rich Saltzberg, The Martha's Vineyard Times
Tisbury Police Investigation Series

Superb investigative reporting that exposes the abuse of power and discrimination in the Tisbury Police Department. Kudos to Saltzberg for his use of public records combined with exhaustive research and relentless digging to shed light on a dark issue.

2nd Place (tie): K.C. Myers, Ryan Fitzgerald, Provincetown Independent
Willy's World Investigation

Excellent series of stories revealing the mismanagement of a local business. Revealing a long history of mistreatment, lawsuits and fraud, this series was instrumental in holding the owner accountable. Well done!

INVESTIGATIVE / ENTERPRISE REPORTING

(continued)

3rd Place: Brian Bushard and John Lavenburg, The Inquirer and Mirror
Carcinogenic Chemicals Found in Groundwater

Strong piece of reporting on cancer causing chemicals in wells on Nantucket.

Weekly 2

1st Place: Paul Heintz, Seven Days
Guarded Secrets: Claims of misconduct

This is a superb example of in-depth investigative reporting that digs deep into wrongdoing impacting multiple people. Excellent work!

2nd Place: Noah Asimow and Barry Stringfellow, Vineyard Gazette
Trouble Inside the Oak Bluffs Firehouse

This series of reports speaks to the importance of staying on a story and exploring every angle. The more you dig, the more you find. That's exactly the outcome one wants from solid enterprise reporting.

3rd Place: MacLean Gander, The Commons
End of an era

When there's an important issue facing a community, it's the role of the local newspaper to go deep. In this case, the subject is the death of a major institution. Every angle was covered in this series, explored with sensitivity and perspective.

LIVING PAGE OR SECTION

Combined

1st Place: The Berkshire Eagle
Berkshire Landscapes, Aug. 11, 2019

Lively, well-designed section. Packed full of community news and quality writing. Photography is !superb - now I want corn!

2nd Place: The Berkshire Eagle
Berkshire Landscapes, Dec. 22, 2019

This section is a remarkable reflection of the Berkshire lifestyles and communities. Absolutely stunning visuals.

3rd Place: Letitia Baldwin,
The Ellsworth American
living

Excellent living section. The anchor piece on living off the earth was well written and beautifully presented. Jordan Marsh blueberry muffins was a nice nostalgic touch!

LOCAL ELECTION COVERAGE

Daily

1st Place: Joan Livingston, Shelby Ashline, Melina Bourdeau, The Greenfield Recorder
Greenfield election coverage

Volumes of thorough coverage of candidates and ballot questions! Presented to readers in easy to follow format so voters could make informed decisions on their votes.

2nd Place: Sten Spinella, The Day
Election 2020: Voices of the Voters

Excellent election series by The Day! Recruiting a group of readers as a sampling audience, then writing about their responses was a terrific way to engage and inform voters. Well done!

LOCAL ELECTION COVERAGE

(continued)

**3rd Place: Kiernan Dunlop,
The Standard-Times
Mayoral finalist's business history is hard to document**

In depth examination and research in to a candidate's history was well written and brought many more questions to light!

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Staff, VTDigger.org

VTDigger 2020 Élection Guide

Dynamic and comprehensive, this election guide and coverage by VT Digger was an invaluable resources to Vermont voters! Excellent packages informing voters.

LOCAL PERSONALITY PROFILE

Daily 1

**1st Place: Andy Castillo,
The Greenfield Recorder
Gold Star Dirt**

First-rate, important topic handled in a compelling manner. Reads well and brings out the humanity and tragedy of the subject in way that makes for compelling reading. An effective presentation with great artwork.

**2nd Place: Lauren Young,
The Milford Daily News
Reframing manhood**

A compelling , provocative story full of surprises. Does a nice job handling a sensitive subject.

**3rd Place: Kiernan Dunlop,
The Standard-Times
Fashion's afoot in Fairhaven?**

A well-written story about a creative personality, Draws the reader. Good presentation.

Daily 2

**1st Place: Rick Koster, The Day
New London's iconic chef Jack Chaplin pushes on**

An interesting personality brought to life in a tasteful and informative Sorry it had to end.

**2nd Place: William Doyle,
Telegram & Gazette
Father's footsteps**

This profile weaves various voices into an informative and highly readable view and tribute to a local personality. Not sure I like the lead but it supported at lease. Also could parishioners.

**3rd Place: Ron Chimelis, The Republican
Going out while he's still got his fastball**

Well-written in a manner that compels the reader to continue A concise biography with loads of anecdotal elements that give the article flavor and color!

News Services and Online News Sites

**1st Place: Christopher Gavin, Boston.com
Skippy White has been selling records**

Wonderful combination of nostalgia and what is contemporary. Rads well but flow sometimes is broien by bits that are not clear.

LOCAL PERSONALITY PROFILE*(continued)***2nd Place: Emilia Otte,
The Connecticut Examiner
Wesleyan Professor Tackles Human
Hierarchies with the Aid of Animals**

A well-written easy to read and follow interview with someone worth introducing to readers. Get a strong sense of the subject's personality. Would benefit from some comments about her personality from others and more art.

**3rd Place: Michael Jonas,
CommonWealth Magazine
Riding high on 1-vote win for City Council**

Nice interview that pulls out the flavor of the subject's personality. Bit of editing might help give good writing flow better.

Weekly 2**1st Place: Kris Olson,
Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly
'Wrongfully accused' ADA rebuilds career
as criminal defense attorney**

Impelling reading, highly informative piece bolstered by inclusion of diverse momentary. Writer shows depth of familiarity with image and offers a humane treatment of a controversial subject.

**2nd Place: Benjamin Glass, Vermont Sports
Ian Boswell Climbs Back**

A long but attention holding story. Get the essence of the subject's personality. Full of color and imagery, the Writing bogs down at time because of the heavy use of jargon which often plagues sports writing.

**3rd Place: Noah Asimow, Vineyard Gazette
A Career of the Heart**

A nicely written tribute pieces with a strong insights into the subject's personality.

Weekly 1**1st Place: Rob Kiener, Stowe Reporter
Johannes von Trapp**

A very well-written piece that reveals less familiar insights of well-know local personality . A pleasurable read. (We did not need to know the details of the writer's olunch, however.)

**2nd Place: David Kindy,
Old Colony Memorial
Semper Fi Nick Eufrazio**

important revealing the scourge of warfare and as an advocacy piecel Compelling reading that touches the Marine's personaoity as best as possible.

**3rd Place: Tao Woolfe,
The Sandwich Enterprise
First Cape Couple To Contract, And Defeat,
COVID-19 Tell Their Story**

A well-written news/personality piece that brims with humanity. Good subject choice.

OBITUARIES**Daily 1****1st Place: Ken Johnson, The Patriot Ledger
'She was a fast friend of the truth'****2nd Place: Alison Bosma,
The Milford Daily News
Marie Parente: Milford's 'trailblazer'****3rd Place: Greg Sullivan,
The Herald News
John Moss, longtime Herald News police,
courts reporter, dies at 73**

OBITUARIES*(continued)***Daily 2**

1st Place: Garry Brown, The Republican
'Brothers All Are We' together again

2nd Place: Anne-Gerard Flynn,
The Republican
David Cohen

3rd Place: Arianna MacNeill, Boston.com
Friends mourn Gary Gilreath

Weekly 1

1st Place: Emily Clark, Old Colony
Memorial
Geronimo Sands' Curtain Call

2nd Place: Tommy Gardner, Caleigh Cross,
Stowe Reporter
Stowe Original: Wendall Mansfield

3rd Place: Edward Miller,
Provincetown Independent
Bruce Drucker, Zoning Board's
'Cornerstone,' Dies at 75

Weekly 2

1st Place: Julia Wells, Vineyard Gazette
Nelson Bryant, Columnist, War Hero

2nd Place: Bill Eville, Vineyard Gazette
Novelist, Journalist, Ward Just Dies

3rd Place: Darren Marcy,
Manchester Journal
Philanthropist Barbara Riley dies

OUTSTANDING NEWSLETTER**Daily 2**

1st Place: Noah Hoffenberg,
The Berkshire Eagle
Breaking News Alert

Breaking News Alert newsletter is an effective tool in reaching current and potential subscribers. The open rate is impressive, as well as the growth rate on digital subscriptions.

2nd Place: Erica Moser, The Day
Biz Buzz

In addition to appealing to readers (it does based on the data), this is a "must read" for local businesses as well. Clean, clear design as well. Kudos!

Weekly

1st Place: Megan James,
Addison County Independent
Outstanding newsletter MiniBury

Wonderful newsletter - every parent in the 'Bury' would want to read this! Megan James' writing is delightful. Excellent!

2nd Place (tie): Vineyard Gazette
The Broadsheet

Beautifully designed and a great snapshot of what readers need to know. Well done!

2nd Place (tie): The Martha's Vineyard Times
The Minute

The Minute is attractive and inviting, and draws the reader right in. Although it almost has too much in it, it's effective at generating website traffic. Kudos!

OVERALL DESIGN AND PRESENTATION OF A NICHE PRODUCT

Daily 1

**1st Place: Gloucester Daily Times
Cape Ann Magazine**

"Charm and Chic" perfectly describes this magazine throughout. 'What's all the buzz about' creative design was fantastic.

**2nd Place: The Daily News of Newburyport
Newburyport Magazine**

Stunning cover photo! The design is inviting to its readers, and the photo packages throughout the magazine are crisp and welcoming.

Specialty

**1st Place: Mitchell Hayes,
Worcester Business Journal
WBJ 40 Under Forty, 20th anniversary**

We loved this 40 under Forty appeals to an even wider audience with updates on previous honorees. Creative layout with popping photos made this magazine stand out!

**2nd Place: Anne Ewing, Lisa LaGreca,
Providence Business News**

PBN Stuff – This guide to “stuff” made in Rhode Island packs an enormous amount of “stuff” in it. The fun, clean design makes the content and many infographics easy to read.

Weekly 2

**1st Place: Jared Maciel, Vineyard Gazette
The VINE Holiday Gift Guide**

The spirit of the holidays shines through in this holiday gift guide. Appealing photos

and easy to read content make this guide a gift to the readers!

**1st Place: Jane McTeigue, Vanessa
Czarnecki, Nicole Mercier,
Vineyard Gazette - Island Weddings**

The design and color palette throughout this magazine is elegant and romantic. A must-have for planning an island wedding!

**2nd Place: George Clondas,
The Falmouth Enterprise
Best of The Upper Cape**

Thoughtful, open and consistent design
Magnificent photos throughout.

**3rd Place: George Clondas,
The Falmouth Enterprise
On Cape Magazine - Spring Home & Garden**

Perfect Spring cover photo! Headlines were creative and delightful, pulling readers in to each feature.

OVERALL DESIGN AND PRESENTATION OF A PRINT NEWSPAPER

Daily

1st Place: The Berkshire Eagle

Every single page of this newspaper is designed to invite its readers. Strong headlines and organization throughout. Bold photos and creative packages. Landscapes section is clean and sophisticated with themed headlines and layout.

2nd Place: The Republican

Design is consistent throughout. Easy to read, strong headlines and compelling content.

OVERALL DESIGN AND PRESENTATION OF A PRINT NEWSPAPER

(continued)

Weekly

1st Place: The Ellsworth American
Overall Design and Presentation 041620
 Clean, classic design and typography. This weekly newspaper offers a lot of content presented in an appealing manner. The Arts & Leisure section was especially attractive.

2nd Place: Chris Kelly, Susan Abbott, Provincetown Independent
 The design and presentation of this weekly newspaper does not disappoint! Open and consistent design throughout, this paper is very inviting. Beautiful photography and illustrations give this publication a polished look.

3rd Place: Stephen Durkee, Vineyard Gazette
 This size and design of this newspaper is remarkable. The photography is striking - even without color.

POLITICAL COLUMNIST

Combined

1st Place: Jon Lender, The Hartford Courant
Canceled legislative session

2nd Place: Jill Goldthwait, The Ellsworth American
State of Maine

3rd Place: Garry Rayno, InDepthNH.org
Distant Dome

RACIAL OR ETHNIC ISSUE COVERAGE

Daily 1

1st Place: Cody Shepard, The Enterprise, Brockton
After George Floyd's death, a renewed call for justice in the death of Easton's DJ Henry
 DJ Henry's tragic and needless death is a story that needs to keep being told, and this well-reported piece does that brilliantly.

2nd Place: Kiernan Dunlop, The Standard-Times
Man shot during 1970 New Bedford Riots
 A well-written profile of one man trying to keep another man's memory and legacy alive. This piece puts not just one face, but two, on what seems like an eternal struggle for justice.

3rd Place: Kiernan Dunlop, The Standard-Times
'People can only take so much'
 Highly detailed reporting, drawing from accounts written half a century ago, power this fascinating look back at New Bedford's 1970 race riots -- unrest that remarkably echoes the sound and the fury of last year's George Floyd protests.

Daily 2

1st Place: Josie Alibertson-Grove, New Hampshire Union Leader
Lost in translation
 Important and well written reporting on the additional difficulties immigrants face getting information during the pandemic – information that was originally only provided in English.

RACIAL OR ETHNIC ISSUE COVERAGE

(continued)

2nd Place: Kimberly Drelich, The Day Navigating two worlds

Well written interviews with Black police officers reveal their varied views and experiences during the racial protests and call for police accountability. Thoughtfully presented.

3rd Place: Karen Florin, The Day Conversations on Race

Partnering with two local colleges to present the “Conversations on Race” series, this newspaper is actively engaging in important conversations with the local community.

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Dialynn Dwyer, Boston.com Brigham and Women’s doctor’s essay shares what ‘professionalism’ means for Black physicians

Incisive and compelling article on a Brigham and Women’s doctor’s essay on what it means to be ‘professional’ when you are a Black physician. Thorough and thoughtfully written.

2nd Place: Alan J. Keays, VTDigger.org How the Kiah Morris case gripped Vermont, but hasn’t changed anything

Phenomenal accountability journalism! Through dogged reporting Keays exposed the facts around the harrasment of Vermont’s only Black legislator, while the harrasser escaped any legal consequences. The failure of public officials was well documented in this series and resulted in policy shifts in the state. Well done!

3rd Place (tie): Julia Werth, The Connecticut Examiner In Wake of Black Lives Matter, Advocates Press for Curriculum Changes in Connecticut Schools

An insightful look at proposed curriculum changes in Connecticut schools. Well written.

3rd Place (tie): Christopher Peak, New Haven Independent 2 Segregated Schools, 2 Reactions

A revealing look at segregation and racial imbalance at two Connecticut schools.

Specialty

1st Place: Nancy Lavin, Providence Business News A question of equity

Providence Business News reporting on the long standing inequity in minority owned businesses exacerbated during the pandemic is well researched and well written. Layout, photos and graphics add to the strong presentation.

2nd Place (tie): Liisa Rajala, New Hampshire Business Review Now is the time: Black Granite Staters call for more inclusive New Hampshire

A deep data dive in to the systemic policies that deter minority owned businesses. Impressive research and good presentation.

2nd Place (tie): Grant Welker, Worcester Business Journal Black businesses matter

Worcester Business Journal thoroughly researched the racial inequity in Worcester County’s businesses, noting the lack of Black leaders in the area’s hospitals, schools and publicly traded companies. Information and data presented well.

RACIAL OR ETHNIC ISSUE COVERAGE

(continued)

**3rd Place: Catherine Carlock,
Boston Business Journal
Ted Landsmark story**

Interesting profile of Ted Landsmark and his experience and views on race and real estate.

Weekly

**1st Place: Emily Clark, Old Colony Memorial
Black Lives Matter**

Nine distinctive, eloquent community voices, writ large and persuasively. A big challenge executed magnificently.

**2nd Place: Shanta Lee Gander and
MacLean Gander, The Commons
The Black experience in Windham County**
A second collection of pieces by committed members of the community. Eloquent.

**3rd Place: Brian Bushard,
The Inquirer and Mirror
Working for Racial Equity**
A sterling piece. Bushard gets to the essence.

**3rd Place: Noah Asimow, Vineyard Gazette
Polar Bears Stay the Course With Optimism
and Solidarity**
What a treat. How lovely to come upon such a piece.

**3rd Place: Lily Robinon, The Harvard Press
Story Behind Black Lives Matter Senior Rock**
An argument over a clenched fist painted on a rock written with boldness and grace.

REPORTING ON RELIGIOUS ISSUES

Daily 2

**1st Place: Anne-Gerard Flynn and
Stephanie Barry, The Republican
Report and fallout on church abuse claims**
The fallout from sexual abuse claims is thoroughly reported and presented with sensitivity. The Republican receives top honors for their coverage.

**2nd Place: Daniela Altimari,
The Hartford Courant
Waves of refugees are bringing new life**
Informative coverage exploring the rebirth of a 200+ year old Christian Baptist Church that has been brought back to life by refugees from Burma. Nicely done!

**3rd Place (tie): Tracey O'Shaughnessy,
Republican-American
Sainthood nothing short of a miracle**
O'Shaughnessy's meticulous research for this article on the potential canonization of a Waterbury native, is excellent. Beautiful layout and presentation.

**3rd Place (tie): Mark Hayward,
New Hampshire Union Leader
Monks vs. trustees at St. Anselm**
Well researched story about the legal battle between Monks and Board of Trustees on the future of St. Anselm College.

News Services and Online News Sites

**1st Place: Christopher Peak,
New Haven Independent
Religion's Role Raised In Rabbi Greer's Trial**
Difficult subject reported with sensitivity.

REPORTING ON RELIGIOUS ISSUES

(continued)

Weekly 2

1st Place: **Chelsea Edgar, Seven Days**

Good News?

Thorough examination of a rapidly expanding evangelical churches in Vermont. Descriptive writing with good details.

2nd Place (tie): **Derek Brouwer, Molly Walsh, Seven Days**

Godforsaken: Seven Days tracks down ex-priests "credibly accused" of abuse in Vermont

2nd Place (tie): **John Flowers, Addison County Independent**
Spreading the good word online

3rd Place: **Noah Asimow, Vineyard Gazette**
Union Chapel Dedication Proves the Enduring Power of the Pew

RIGHT-TO-KNOW

Daily

1st Place (tie): **Mark Hayward, Doug Alden and Ryan Lessard,**

New Hampshire Union Leader
NH Supreme Court loosens clamps on misconduct records

The Union Leader demonstrated its unwavering commitment to protecting the public's right to know. Joining forces with the NH ACLU, the newspaper fought for the release of a redacted audit report on problem police with the Salem Police department.

1st Place (tie): **Brad Petrishen,**
Telegram & Gazette

T&G pursuit of police records

The Telegram & Gazette proves its continued commitment to the public's right to know in its costly battle with the city of Worcester for the release of police disciplinary records.

2nd Place: **Joe Wojtas, The Day**
Chokas investigation

Relentless pursuit of the truth and dogged reporting through FOI requests revealed school administrators had ignored complaints that a teacher had touched female students inappropriately. Despite the school system spending nearly \$100k on legal bills to keep this information secret, Joe Wojtas and The Day prevailed to hold administrators accountable.

3rd Place: **Paul Cuno-Booth,**
The Keene Sentinel
Use-of-force policies

The Keene Sentinel's persistent efforts to obtain use-of-force policies is significant, especially for the change it spurred in chokehold policies for several police department.

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: **Christopher Peak,**
New Haven Independent

FOI in New Haven's Schools

Christopher Peak's dedication to the public's right to know is clearly demonstrated in his appeals to shine a light in areas that school administrators would prefer keep from the public.

RIGHT-TO-KNOW*(continued)*

2nd Place: Cate Hewitt, Gregory Stroud, The Connecticut Examiner
Audit Details Lax Oversight, Excessive, Improper and Undocumented Expenses by CT Port Authority

Revealing report on improper expenditure and reporting of public funds.

3rd Place: Julia Werth, The Connecticut Examiner
Few Rules, Little Oversight For \$11 Million Open Choice Program

SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY REPORTING**Daily 2**

1st Place: Doug Fraser, Cape Cod Times
DEEP SEA MAKEOVER

Fascinating deep dive in how scientists are exploring the wonders of the deep ocean. Don Fraser's clear explanations and mesmerizing writing style helps readers connect to the world under the ocean

2nd Place: Doug Fraser, Cape Cod Times
Insect-related soot vexes Cape homeowners

Well written story explaining local infestation of insects, how readers can deal with it and the effects on trees.

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Ainslie Cromar, Boston.com
From petri dish to plate, Harvard researchers make lab-grown meat a reality
 Compelling article on the science of lab-grown meat, clearly explained and

intriguing subject. Ainslie Cromar's piece is first class!

2nd Place: Kristi Palma, Boston.com
A local couple turned to Zoom after the coronavirus cancelled their wedding

Terrific story of using technology in the early days of the pandemic to stay connected and include family in this couple's wedding. A quick look back that show how far we've all come in the use of virtual technology in only one year.

Specialty

1st Place: Lucia Maffei, Boston Business Journal
Mass. 3D printers pivot

Timely, well written piece on the technological advances and advantages of 3D printing - especially in time sensitive critical situations during the pandemic.

2nd Place: Bob Sanders, New Hampshire Business Review
The energy storage moment?

Clearly explained article on the advances in clean energy and potential benefits. Well researched.

3rd Place: Grant Welker, Worcester Business Journal
NIH billions

The vital role of NIH funding is explored. This is a revealing look at where billions of dollars are being invested and the return on that investment in both medical advances and jobs in Massachusetts.

3rd Place: Kris Olson, Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly
Former AAG, Boston organization part of renewed TikTok complaint

The real cost of watching 15-second videos. Every parent should read this article.

SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY REPORTING*(continued)***Weekly**

1st Place: Sophie Ruehr, Provincetown**Independent****Culling Seals Is Wrong Answer**

Revealing, well written article on the importance of seal population to a healthy environment.

**2nd Place: Elizabeth M. Seyler, Seven Days
The Nose Knows**

Interesting look at the relationship between smell and virtual reality. Fascinating exploration of the potential uses including therapeutic value using the direct link from olfactory senses to memory and emotion.

**3rd Place: Kate Cough,
The Ellsworth American
Mighty Mice head to space**

Good piece explaining the use of mice in space to study gravity's effects on muscles and bones. Nicely done!

SERIOUS COLUMNIST**Daily 2**

**1st Place: Saralee Perel, Cape Cod Times
In memory of a very good dog named
Becky****2nd Place: Cynthia Simison, The Republican
Love your libraries; Find joy among your
sadness****3rd Place: Felix Carroll, The Berkshire Eagle
Felix Carroll****3rd Place: Mark Hayward,
New Hampshire Union Leader
City Matters: Life in Census Tract 15****News Services and Online News Sites**

**1st Place: Michael Davidow, InDepthNH.org
Radio Free New Hampshire****Specialty**

**1st Place: Keith Gentili, New Boston Beacon
Cannon Fodder****2nd Place: Scott Van Voorhis,
Banker & Tradesman
"Crusade Against Pocket Listings Is Needed,
and Far Too Late"****3rd Place: Bonnie J. Walker,
Worcester Business Journal
Outside the Box with Bonnie J. Walker****Weekly 1**

**1st Place: Kris McGinn,
The Manchester Cricket
Good Bye, David Andrews****2nd Place: Carole Vasta Folley,
The Other Paper
Fear whispers that life will never be the
same****3rd Place: Jennifer Falvey,
The Vermont Standard
Jennifer Falvey****Weekly 2**

**1st Place: Bill Eville, Vineyard Gazette
On the Wings of Hope and Sorrow;
Cheering for Camp Jabberwocky****2nd Place: Karl Lindholm,
Addison County Independent
Lindholm Meditation on hoop and
Automythology**

SOCIAL ISSUES FEATURE STORY

Daily 1

**1st Place: Hadley Barndollar,
Portsmouth Herald**
No Where To Go

This powerful series puts a human face on the opioid scourge, which largely has been forgotten by a society preoccupied with the coronavirus pandemic. Elegant writing.

2nd Place: Joe Difazio, The Patriot Ledger
The battle to prevent suicides by veterans

This well-reported series brings home a heartbreaking national problem that should have, and could have, been fixed long ago.

**3rd Place: Hadley Barndollar,
Portsmouth Herald**
Low-income and a single mom – then the coronavirus pandemic hit

Compelling coverage of a segment of society -- single moms with special needs children -- whose already precarious lives have been upended by the pandemic.

Daily 2

**1st Place: Elaine Thompson,
Telegram & Gazette**
I trust nobody

This heart-wrenching, beautifully told story of a survivor of childhood sex abuse is one of the finest we've ever read. The quotes are gutting, but the narrative powerfully frames damning allegations that continue to tarnish an American institution that was supposed to be above reproach.

**2nd Place: Cynthia McCormick,
Cape Cod Times**
'Hidden and buried and locked

A poignant portrait of loss and the extra sting needlessly borne by some of our family

members, neighbors, friends and colleagues. This is powerful, probing journalism that will expose every reader's blind spots.

3rd Place: Erica Moser, The Day
What do people mean when they call for defunding the police?

This is an excellent explainer -- a format we can't get enough of. Concise yet still comprehensive (not an easy thing to pull off)

News Services and Online News Sites

**1st Place: Kelan Lyons,
The Connecticut Mirror**
Should police be social workers

A well-timed story that looks at an innovative approach to an ongoing problem around police training and expectations. Good use of data when it comes to taser use on the "emotionally disturbed."

**2nd Place: Christopher Peak,
New Haven Independent**
2 Segregated Schools, 2 Reactions

A fascinating issue that is brought to the audience with strong data and real life examples. This story really gives a good sense of the complexity of issue.

3rd Place: Christopher Gavin, Boston.com
Affordable housing policy remains out of touch, advocates say

A strong lede zeros right in on the issue of affordable housing among the fully employed. Especially liked the focus on the IPP and why that program may not be working as it was designed.

SOCIAL ISSUES FEATURE STORY*(continued)***Weekly 1**

1st Place: Robin Chan, Marshfield Mariner
For Deaf community, COVID-19 presents unique problems

A very good topic around an aspect of the pandemic people may not consider. Good sources and reporting.

2nd Place: Brian Bushard,
The Inquirer and Mirror
Working for Racial Equity

An interesting read about efforts to improve diversity in the schools. Teacher at the top was excellent and really illustrated the issue. Good background about things that have happened -- or not happened -- in the community around this issue.

Weekly 2

1st Place: Chelsea Edgar, Seven Days
HOWling at the Moon: A Women's Collective Grapples With a Gender-Fluid Future

The story has a good mix of the past and present. Solid reporting around a variety of related issues. There's something to be learned in this story; it raises a lot of issues. Good sourcing and voices.

2nd Place: Diane McLaughlin,
Banker & Tradesman
Financial Abuse Ties Banking to Domestic Violence

A good story on a rather under-reported aspect of domestic abuse. The angle fits the publication.

3rd Place: James Bessette,
Providence Business News
Strength in numbers: Some struggling nonprofits eye an alliance

Solid story. Good reporting. Very organization based.

SPECIAL SECTION OR EDITORIAL SUPPLEMENT**Daily**

1st Place: The Day

This special section highlighting the community impact of The Day's work for the year is phenomenal. Every news organization should do this!

2nd Place: Patricia Thompson, Annmarie Murdzia, The Republican
Outlook 2020

The Republican's annual Outlook section is massive. The depth of coverage, quality of writing and range of subjects covered is outstanding.

3rd Place: The Salem News
STRENGTH, HOPE, COURAGE

The Salem News' Breast Cancer Awareness section is a true gift to readers, loaded with critical information. Congratulations!

Weekly 1

1st Place: Staff, The Inquirer and Mirror
Year in Review

Very well produced special section of the top stories from the year, and the community members who have passed.

2nd Place: Provincetown Independent
Graduation in Quarantine

Many newspapers produced special sections for the graduating class of 2020, but this was a work of art! Beautifully well done.

SPECIAL SECTION OR EDITORIAL SUPPLEMENT

(continued)

3rd Place: The Provincetown Banner Wellfleet OysterFest supplement

Terrific special section for the Wellfleet OysterFest. Beautiful cover design and full of everything you need to know for the festival in an appealing format.

3rd Place: The Manchester Cricket "Around The Home"

Charming section! Beautiful layout and photos, well written stories - and love the introductory contrast of "Around the Home" to "Out and About."

Weekly 2

1st Place: The Ellsworth American your dream home

This special section stands out with its stunning photos and inviting articles that showcase the character of Dream Homes in the area.

2nd Place: New Hampshire Business Review Charitable Giving Guide

Excellent annual publication showcasing nonprofit organizations! The Business Review provides a valuable service informing businesses and residents about these worthy organizations. It goes one step further with ways to get involved and ideas on how to encourage others. This section makes a real impact.

3rd Place: Carolyn Fox, Seven Days Staytripper July 2020

Creative section created during the pandemic. Especially valuable when people can't travel but need to find outlets to re-

charge and de-stress -- while supporting local businesses!

3rd Place: Entire Staff, Addison County Independent Graduation 2020 in the Addison Independent

This salute to the Class of 2020 stood out among the many graduation sections. Congratulations to your staff for their tremendous effort pulling off an inspiring and fun section for a class that missed out on so much.

SPECIAL SPORTS SECTION

Combined

1st Place: Stowe Reporter

RIDE

Excellent section on mountain biking. Great spread with map of local trails and advertisers.

2nd Place: Ashley Carter, Mike Mandell, The Ellsworth American Tournament section 2.13.20

Thorough basketball tournament preview. Good use of photography throughout.

3rd Place: Patricia Thompson, The Republican Patriots Preview

Solid preview section

SPORTS COLUMNIST

Daily

1st Place: Phil Stacey, The Salem News

Phil Stacey is a skilled writer. His touching tribute to Pete Frates and his heartbreaking battle with ALS was top notch. His easy writing style draws the reader in.

SPORTS COLUMNIST*(continued)***2nd Place: Mike Walsh, The Berkshire Eagle
Powder Report**

Mike Walsh delivers refreshing, playful material.

News Services and Online News Sites**1st Place: Matt Vautour, MassLive****World Series gave my family hope**

Matt Vautour expertly draws the reader in to the intimacy of his son's hospital room and how sports can inspire hope. Well done.

**2nd Place: George Liset, InDepthNH.org
Me and My Son Reed, A Quarter Century of
Fly Fishing Together**

Elegant writing style sharing insights about the outdoors.

SPORTS FEATURE STORY**Daily 1****1st Place: Brendan Kurie,****The Standard-Times****Heart of a Champion**

Great story woven together with skill, clearly conveying the emotional scene of early challenges and the success of young adulthood.

2nd Place: Alex Abrami,**Burlington Free Press****A look at UVM's elite-level 'D'**

Really good explanatory feature. Answered the how and why. Loved the writing cadence of the first few grafs.

3rd Place: Ethan Winter,**The Milford Daily News****Blackstone Valley Tech football player Tony
Pena diagnosed with brain tumor**

Well-told emotional story with a solid beginning, middle, end.

Daily 2**1st Place: Matt Vautour, MassLive****Finally Teammates**

Extremely well written and detailed. Conveyed the emotions perfectly.

**2nd Place: Lori Riley, The Hartford Courant
Connecticut couple balances husband's
struggle with Alzheimer's and his goal of
running**

Skillfully hit all of the emotions: sad, depressing, joyful. Well done!

3rd Place: Mike Anthony,**The Hartford Courant****Lizzy Cappelli may be blind, but she can see
life's possibilities with great clarity**

Solid reporting and writing. Didn't venture into maudlin.

Weekly**1st Place: Lisa Lynn, VT Ski & Ride****Shattering the Glass Ceiling -VT Ski + Ride**

Comprehensive look at many of the factors involved in the 60/40 men/women split in skiing. Well done!

2nd Place: Geoff Currier,**The Martha's Vineyard Times****Play Ball: Chilmark softball players team up
on summer Sundays.**

Creative, humorous non-traditional sports feature.

3rd Place: David Wolcott,**Old Colony Memorial****50 for 50**

Exhaustive and well thought out series that basically tells the town's sports history.

SPORTS SECTION

Combined

1st Place: Staff, The Berkshire Eagle Sports Section, Nov. 17, 2019

Outstanding sports section. Really like the range of sports covered. Fantastic cover page and treatment of the football and cross country championships.

2nd Place: Brendan Kurie and Laurie Los Lee, The Standard-Times Sports section

Super sports section. Good mix of local and professional coverage.

3rd Place: Mike Mandell, The Ellsworth American sports section

Well written coverage of local sports. Great photos!

SPORTS STORY

Daily 1

1st Place: Kyle Grabowski, Daily Hampshire Gazette A talent for pens & pins

The opening graph grabbed me and I couldn't learn enough about this kid.

2nd Place: Brendan Kurie, The Standard-Times REVERSAL OF FORTUNE

Wow! What a story. You have nothing but admiration for this man.

3rd Place: Alex Abrami, Burlington Free Press Repeat Defender

I remain a sucker for a well-crafted, insightful, good old-fashioned game story.

There was a lot here and Alex Abrami does it justice.

Daily

1st Place: Chris Mason, MassLive Patriots rookie Kyle Dugger getting kicked out of Lenoir-Rhyne practice put him on path to NFL

Who? Why? How? Chris Mason answers any question a Patriot fan would have about the unknown draft pick from Lenoir-Rhyne

2nd Place: Shawn McFarland, The Hartford Courant Newtown wins football state championship on anniversary of Sandy Hook school shooting

Heartwarming tale well told. Hits the right note. Not overdone.

3rd Place: Alexaa Philippou, The Hartford Courant International students/student athletes left in limbo amid pandemic

This took work. You end reading it a lot smarter than you were when you began.

Weekly

1st Place: Ryan Fitzgerald, Provincetown Independent Cape League Baseball Is Called Out

Excellent! It's great if you know the Cape League and it's great if you don't. Well done.

2nd Place: Joe McConnell, Marblehead Reporter Danvers native, Marblehead High teacher Brian Crowley recalls his glory days

Feel-good story about a respected track coach passing the baton, as it were, to a respected former student-athlete.

SPORTS STORY*(continued)*

3rd Place: Will Sennott, Vineyard Gazette
A Derby First, Grand Prize Car Goes to a Ten Year Old

Fun topic well-presented.

SPOT NEWS STORY**Daily**

1st Place: Stephanie Barry, Don Treeger, Greg Saulmon, The Republican

Witnesses to Route 5 crash that killed 2 describe 'deafening' impact

This coverage of a police chase and deadly wreck went beyond basic spot reporting when after a fleeing suspect smashed his car into a mail truck, killing himself as a postal worker. The journalist delivers a concise breaking news report built on witnesses' accounts and — in an impressive enterprise reporting move — transcripts of police radio calls. The result is a sober, focused story that manages to convey the panic during the chase and the horrible result.

2nd Place: Donna Perry, Russ Dillingham and staff, Sun Journal
Farmington explosion

This coverage of a deadly building explosion balanced speed, precision reporting and heart. The blast killed one firefighter and injured six others in an event that shook this town. The Sun Journal's coverage provided the essential facts while also conveying the sense of loss the explosion left behind.

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Christopher Peak,
New Haven Independent

School Bus Rerouting Causes Chaos

This spot news story provided real-time coverage and watchdog reporting as New Haven parents faced confusion and worry over sudden bus route changes the day before the school opened. The journalist tracked the unfolding events, captured scenes of parents' frustration, and held school district officials accountable for creating the chaos. All of that went into one deadline story, carefully reported and skillfully told.

Weekly

1st Place: Randolph T. Holhut and Olga Peters, The Commons

Cash-strapped Retreat pursues shutdown after rebuke by state agency

A great spot news story combines the immediacy of fast-changing events with context and meaning for the audience. This detailed story about the potential closing of the Brattleboro retreat delivers breaking news, spells out the consequences for the community, and provides a thorough insightful account of the actions and circumstances that have led to this turning point.

2nd Place: Kate Cough,
The Ellsworth American
Couple make it to the altar

This story of a couple's car wreck two days before their wedding unfolds in a detail-rich narrative that reminds us how even the commonplace can turn frightening and potentially tragic. It's written with care not to overplay the obvious drama while allow the reader to understand the couple's harrowing experience.

SPOT NEWS STORY

(continued)

**3rd Place: Abe Loomis and Jeff Potter,
The Commons**

Marlboro College looks ahead after merger talks fail

This story provides the breaking news of the ongoing financial challenges facing this college with the context needed to understand what's at stake for this unique campus and the community. It delivers all of these qualities with clear, well-sourced writing.

TRANSPORTATION REPORTING

Daily

1st Place: Ethan Genter, Cape Cod Times
Coast Guard sheds new light on Iyanough crash

Good solid reporting, along with Public Records requests from the reporter provided answers to the public on the Iyanough crash.

**2nd Place: Taylor Ann Bradford,
Gloucester Daily Times**
Thinking beyond the bus

3rd Place: Kimberly Drelich, The Day
Norwich, Old Saybrook among DMV locations with the longest wait times in the state

Weekly

**1st Place: Rich Saltzberg,
The Martha's Vineyard Times**
Steamship Authority

Saltzberg leaves no stone unturned in his coverage of the Steamship Authority. An important service for the readers in the community on what, how, why and the costs

associated with this vital resource to the island.

2nd Place: Courtney Lamdin, Seven Days
Runaway Train?

3rd Place: Lauren Clem, Valley Breeze
Friends of crash victim say change needed

WEATHER COVERAGE

Combined

1st Place: Christopher Gavin, Boston.com
Why you shouldn't put any stock in the farmers' almanacs' winter forecasts

Light-hearted piece that discusses why it's so hard to predict the weather in the Boston area. It also explains the difference between the Farmer's Almanac and the Old Farmer's Almanac and their predictions.

2nd Place: Mary Whitfill, The Patriot Ledger
A BLESSING AND A CURSE

Terrific story on the winners, losers, and - what it costs - or doesn't, when it snows. The writer presented a lot of data in a well written manner.

**3rd Place: Bob Sanders,
New Hampshire Business Review**
NH businesses step up on climate change
Revealing information on ways climate change effects businesses in New Hampshire.

BEST INFOGRAPHIC ON WEBSITE

Combined

1st Place: Gregory Bryant, Cape Cod Times COVID-19 interactives

This collection of interactive charts provides data in an impressive variety of ways to help consumers understand the spread of COVID infections. Data presented is in clear, dynamic charts.

2nd Place: Caitlyn Kelleher, The MetroWest Daily News INTERACTIVE: Find out which candidates for president Massachusetts residents are donating to.

The searchable and interactive charts are a powerful tool for readers to research who is donating, and how much each candidate is raising.

3rd Place: Andrea Suozzo, Seven Days Vermont Has the Nation's Highest Lyme Disease Rate. Where Does Your County Rank?

Informative data in these infographics provide important safety information for residents. The geographical shift of Lyme disease rates is provided in a clear visually compelling manner.

BEST OVERALL MOBILE PRODUCT

Daily

1st Place: MassLive

Submission for best overall mobile product
Clean and easy to navigate. Impressed with the "Subscriber Exclusive" tags, so non-subscribers can see how much they are missing.

**2nd Place: The Day
The Day's mobile site**

Attractive and easy to navigate mobile site with quality content. Advertising is well presented.

Weekly

1st Place: The Martha's Vineyard Times MVTimes on Mobile

Mobile friendly site. Visually appealing, easy to navigate.

2nd Place: The Ellsworth American mobil product

Appealing design, good navigation tools, easy to read mobile site.

BEST OVERALL WEBSITE

Daily

**1st Place: The Day
The Day's website**

Website is well designed and user friendly. Easy to navigate, this site is chock full of quality content, stunning photos and digital interactions with audience – impressive amount of video and podcasts. Terrific advertising placement that does not overwhelm.

**2nd Place: The Berkshire Eagle
Berkshire Eagle**

This website is visually appealing – the food section is stunning. Lots of quality content and clear, organized menu to guide users.

BEST OVERALL WEBSITE

(continued)

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Boston.com

Boston.com

Appealing and engaging website. Above the fold Top Stories draw users in immediately. Good accessibility with consistent typography, organized menu and subcategory buttons.

2nd Place: MassLive

Submission for best overall website

Dynamic website. The Latest top stories with times is fantastic for those who like to get their news in real time. Very attractive site, clean design and simple navigation draw users and keep them on the site.

Specialty

1st Place: Chris Bergenheim, PBN Staff, Providence Business News PBN website

Well designed and user friendly. Good topics menu and quality content.

2nd Place: Jamie Kageleiry, Tara Kenny, Martha's Vineyard Arts & Ideas

Arts and Ideas Magazine

Visually stunning site. A real treat for the arts community.

Weekly

1st Place: The Vermont Standard thevermontstandard.com

Unique design that is visually appealing and inviting. Although it took a moment, the site is easy to navigate. A great amount of content, photos and galleries reflecting the community. I applaud the time and date stamps on the stories, especially for a weekly newspaper site.

2nd Place: Seven Days

Seven Days website

Massive amount of content on this site. In depth special reports are impressive. Good design and consistent architecture. Advertising is good throughout, but it was a little overwhelming on some pages.

3rd Place: Vineyard Gazette

vineyardgazette.com

Quality content with a clean classic design.

BEST PODCAST

Combined

1st Place: Rick Koster, Carlos Virgen, The Day

The Storyline

Good production and engaging interviews.

2nd Place: Brad Kane, Hank Stolz, Worcester Business Journal

The Weekly Business Report

Timely and informative conversations.

3rd Place: Jeanette Hinkle,

The MetroWest Daily News

HALLOWEEN PODCAST: The Ghost of Sudbury's Wayside Inn

Enjoyable podcast documenting eerie happenings at the Wayside Inn.

DIGITAL STRATEGY EXCELLENCE

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: VTDigger.org

VTDigger

VTDigger's strategy is all digital. They take top place for their covid-related digital initiatives: liveblog, newsletters and searchable FAQs about the virus are a public service to Vermonters.

DIGITAL STRATEGY EXCELLENCE

(continued)

Weekly

1st Place: Vineyard Gazette
vineyardgazette.com

The Vineyard Gazette's exciting expansion of digital initiatives earns them first place for their digital strategy. Their email newsletters boast healthy open rates; increased use of social media heightened their online presence; and interactive initiatives like community surveys and repurposing of old reader-submitted film footage on the website has been effective in engaging readers.

ENTERTAINMENT VIDEO

Daily

1st Place: Peter Huoppi, The Day
High school music during pandemic

This was a cool and creative video! It really captured the spirit and passion of the choir. Nicely done!

2nd Place: Samantha Hayes,
The Keene Sentinel
Walldogs

Amazing! This behind the scenes look at the Walldogs project in Keene was mesmerizing.

3rd Place: Eva Sollberger, Seven Days
Stuck in Vermont: Bristol Car Parade Celebrates Bill James' 109th Birthday

This celebration of Bill's 109th birthday parade was a joy to watch!

FEATURE VIDEO

Daily 1

1st Place: Kristopher Radder,
Brattleboro Reformer
Living with Dementia

Emotional and informative, this touching video about taking care of a family member with dementia was heartbreakingly beautiful.

2nd Place: Samantha Hayes,
The Keene Sentinel
Trusty steeds

This was a wonderful look at equestrian therapy. Beautifully shot and captures the positive effect this therapy has on the students and their families. Well done.

3rd Place: Samantha Hayes,
The Keene Sentinel
Teaching music

Interesting topic and uplifting story.

Daily 2

1st Place: Peter Huoppi, The Day
EEE Survivor

This video was so well done. Peter Huoppi shared this family's story and the devastating effects of EEE, and he did so with grace. Congratulations on a well deserved award!

2nd Place: Steve Foskett,
Telegram & Gazette
Worcester By Bike

This series is great! Steve Foskett does an excellent job giving good biking tips and showcasing areas for riding - while injecting humor. Well done!

FEATURE VIDEO

(continued)

**3rd Place: Peter Huoppi, The Day
Blind dancer**

Elegant and touching video.

**3rd Place: S. Zollshan, L. Hollenbaugh,
J. Huberdeau, The Berkshire Eagle
"A (very) beginner's guide on how to make
a croquembouche"**

Hollenbaugh is hilarious in this entertaining cooking piece. This should be a regular feature, if it isn't already.

Weekly

**1st Place: Eva Sollberger, Seven Days
Video: The Downes Family Recovers From
COVID-19**

Revealing the raw emotions that the pandemic brings out in people, this video beautifully tells the story of one family's experience. Beautifully produced, Eva Sollberger takes first place for this emotionally charged piece.

**2nd Place: Megan James,
Addison County Independent
Tricia's Book Bike**

Entertaining video - a real feel-good feature about Tricia's book bike. Well done!

MULTIMEDIA COVERAGE

Daily

**1st Place: Staff, Republican-American
#CLASSOF2020**

The video gallery of the 2020 senior class is awesome! I wanted to watch every single video - they were top notch! What a creative and memorable gift to the students and the entire audience. Kudos!

News Services and Online News Sites

**1st Place: Erin Petenko and Mike
Dougherty, VTDigger.org**

**Deadly Encounters: Why do deaths at the
hands of police keep rising in Vermont?**

Thorough analysis of deaths at the hand of police in Vermont. VTDigger presented a remarkable package using data, infographics, and compelling video. The briefs and links to news clips of cases going back 50 years was incredible. Great work.

NEWS VIDEO

Combined

**1st Place: Peter Huoppi, The Day
Stonington veteran**

Thoughtful video of Stonington veteran who walks 26.2 miles on Veterans Day each year to honor fellow veterans. Touching and well done.

**2nd Place: Rick Cinclair, Telegram & Gazette
Ice Rescue**

Good spot news coverage of rescue of ice fisherman who broke through ice. Good interviews.

**3rd Place: Peter Huoppi, The Day
Norwich march**

This video captured the high emotions in the march. Well done.

SPORTS VIDEO

Combined

**1st Place: Eva Sollberger, Seven Days
Stuck in Vermont: Green Mountain Athletic
Association 10K in Scenic Charlotte**

This was a really well produced video that highlighted the race and the runners in such a fun way.

SPORTS VIDEO

(continued)

2nd Place: Peter Huoppi, The Day
Trick shots

This video was a joy to watch! Nicely done.

WEBSITE INTERACTIVITY AND ENGAGEMENT

Combined

1st Place: Vineyard Gazette
vineyardgazette.com

2nd Place: Christy King,
The Manchester Cricket
thecricket.com

Daily 1

1st Place: Carol Lollis,
Daily Hampshire Gazette
Mother and Son

This is pure art! Excellent image! just beautiful.

2nd Place: Kristopher Radder,
Brattleboro Reformer
Cheering up seniors

Strong well done image. Nice coverage.

3rd Place: Carol Lollis,
Daily Hampshire Gazette
Car Talk

Cute Covid image.

Daily 2

1st Place: Telegram & Gazette
Rivera family meets through St. Vincent's window
great moment of isolation

2nd Place: Jim Shannon,
Republican-American
A friendly assist
Excellent image and reactions

3rd Place: Jim Shannon, R
epublican-American
Catch them if you can
Very strong image.

3rd Place: Rick Cinclair, Telegram & Gazette
Southbridge police make a splash
Strong image

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: Yehyun Kim,
The Connecticut Mirror
Lake Compound Bristol
Nice pan image.

2nd Place: Glenn Russell, VTDigger.org
Fish Fail
Cute image

3rd Place: Yehyun Kim,
The Connecticut Mirror
Reopening Magic Shears
Well done

Weekly

1st Place: David Sokol, Beverly Citizen
Ice Cream Peekers
Smart photojournalism by going away from the lines into the real story inside the story. Well done!

2nd Place: Jeanna Shepard,
Vineyard Gazette
Fashion Designer Stina Sayre
Well done image telling who, what and why in one image. Well done.

FEATURE PHOTO*(continued)*

*3rd Place: Mark Alan Lovewell,
Vineyard Gazette
Annual Kids Derby
Well done image showing Pride in Dinner.*

GENERAL NEWS PHOTO**Daily 1**

*1st Place: Peter Pereira,
The Standard-Times
Deeply etched
Perfect perspective for a masterful coverage of a possible routine event. True photojournalism to be proud of. Great job.*

*2nd Place: Peter Pereira,
The Standard-Times
'Despicable, senseless and disrespectful'
Strong image with perfect shooting perspective. Well done.*

*3rd Place: Jaime Campos, The Salem News
Sharing a Laugh
This is a really funny image. Nice job.*

Daily

*1st Place: Telegram & Gazette
Black Lives Matter has peaceful march in Worcester
Excellent image! Well done.*

*2nd Place: Brad Horrigan,
The Hartford Courant
Columbus Statue Confrontation
Peak action of confrontation*

*3rd Place: Glenn Russell, VTDigger.org
Moment of Silence
Interesting perspective*

Weekly 2

*1st Place: Gary Higgins,
Boston Business Journal
Anger at cannabis license delays
Very strong photojournalism! Waiting for the "action" at a meeting not known for action shows patience, dedication and professionalism. Well done.*

*2nd Place: Ken McGagh, Newton Tab
Teacher Protest
Strong image. Well done but you already know that. Me patting you on the back is like me saying nice shot to Arnold Palmer.... Still - strong image.*

*3rd Place: Steve James,
Addison County Independent
Middlebury college pay protest Gottlieb 0735
Well done image*

Weekly 1

*1st Place: David Sokol,
Swampscott Reporter
Shouting In Protest
Strong coverage of the event. well done!*

*2nd Place: Robin Chan,
Scituate Mariner
Mourning
Excellent set of images on a difficult subject.*

*3rd Place: Nicole Harnishfeger,
The Inquirer and Mirror
Curbside delivery takes on a humorous bent with this din-delivery
This image made me smile as I am sure is the reaction of anyone who views it. Nice work!*

NEWS FEATURE PHOTO

Daily 1

1st Place: Peter Pereira,
The Standard-Times

Painting the town sad

Great Eye! All puns intended. Just an example of a photojournalist who is always watching his or her environment for images to appear.

2nd Place: Peter Pereira,
The Standard-Times

Mirror, mirror on the ground

Pure art! Very strong image. Just nicely done. Great eye.

3rd Place: Peter Pereira,
The Standard-Times

Summer '19: New Bedford Arts at the tipping point

The only angle where this is art and not just a pickup basketball game. Art from mundane! Excellent.

Daily 2

1st Place: David Lane,
New Hampshire Union Leader
Celebrating 99 years

Excellent Image! Together separated by COVID. Hands, Face Reflection all in one lead photo. Who, What, Why and maybe Where. Very well done!

2nd Place: Steve Heaslip, Cape Cod Times
Eagle Release

Nice timing! Peak action.

3rd Place: Mark Mirko,
The Hartford Courant

Dr. Chris Winterbottom, Medical ICU director at Bridgeport Hospital

Pure Joy!

Weekly

1st Place: Ray Ewing, Vineyard Gazette
Stringing Flags for Peace, Unity and Supporting Black Lives
a Whale of a Tail. Nice image

2nd Place: Nicole Harnishfeger,
The Inquirer and Mirror
Nantucket's first pot dispensary opens
Cash Crop for modern farming. This image displays loving pride

3rd Place: Gary Higgins,
Boston Business Journal
Kid crying at Logan airport
Great moment any parent will relate to over and over again.

PERSONALITY PHOTO

Daily 1

1st Place: Peter Pereira,
The Standard-Times
Brush strokes of kindness

Excellent close angle to concentrate on the painting and face without emphasizing any deficit. Well done.

2nd Place: Paul Bilodeau,
Gloucester Daily Times
Thank you, Mrs. Keny
great reaction image. Well done

3rd Place: Harold Hanka, The Westerly Sun
Lustre Kings
Just a damn funny image!

PERSONALITY PHOTO

(continued)

Daily 2

2nd Place: Stephanie Zollshan,

The Berkshire Eagle

Wonder Woman

A future Wonder Woman so very happy!
Joyous image. Strong slice of time.

3rd Place: Dave Roback, The Republican
Colleen crowned

And the Winner is! Says it all.

Weekly

1st Place: David Sokol, Beverly Citizen

Ukule-Lee

This image is full of personality and joy. Very strong image. Nicely done.

2nd Place: Cyndi Wood,
The Ellsworth American
100th birthday

warm image. Well done.

3rd Place: Robin Chan,
The Hingham Journal
Cabaret Cup

This is really cute. nice job.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Combined

1st Place: Steve Heaslip, Cape Cod Times

Jack Kerouac

Strong illustration. Nice job!

PHOTO SERIES

Daily

1st Place: Peter Pereira,

The Standard-Times

Front lines of the fight

Excellent coverage! Vey well done.

2nd Place: Peter Pereira,

The Standard-Times

EMTs

Well done story. Good eye and angles.

2nd Place: Marc Vasconcellos,

The Enterprise, Brockton

Sullivan Triumphs

This is not a photo illustration. It should have been entered in general news. I am judging it in second place because it is a strong image but doesn't belong in this category

3rd Place: Yehyun Kim,

The Connecticut Mirror

Until they hear us

Fine set of images to tell this story.

Weekly

1st Place: Gary Higgins,

Boston Business Journal

Covid pandemic

This is fantastic coverage of an event we may not see again in our life times. I have never see such solitary or vacant images of one of the most dynamic locations in America. These are not only Excellent images but they are Historic. Excellent Photojournalism. I congratulate you for your ability and dedication in creating fantastic images in essential desolation.

PHOTO SERIES

(continued)

2nd Place: Gary Higgins,
Boston Business Journal
Black Lives Matter protests
Strong BLM series of images covering the extent and emotion of the event. Well Done

3rd Place: David Sokol,
Marblehead Reporter
Glover's Regiment
Strong set of images and interesting as well.

PHOTO STORY

Daily 1

1st Place: Peter Pereira,
The Standard-Times
Whaling City Witches' Ball
A Beautiful story. Well done from start to finish. Excellent photojournalism.

2nd Place: Peter Pereira,
The Standard-Times
Locked down with hope
Very strong set of images. Nice coverage

3rd Place: Peter Pereira,
The Standard-Times
'I choose to go beyond'
Excellent imsges

Daily 2

1st Place: Greg Saulmon, The Republican
Behind the scenes of the Ms.
Massachusetts Senior America pageant
Very well covered. Strong imagery. Good composition but please watch your horizon lines unless you are shooting on a rolling ship.

2nd Place: Yehyun Kim,
The Connecticut Mirror
Special Session CT State Capitol
Well done with a difficult, normally dull, subject. The slow shutter or double image is especially well done. The image with the lawmaker on the right of the frame looking down is very nice!

3rd Place: Christine Peterson,
Telegram & Gazette
99-year-old WWII veteran, POW honored
strong wet of images

Weekly

1st Place: Glenn Callahan, Gordon Miller,
Stowe Reporter
Bambi Freeman
Very strong set of images. Well done and great coverage.

2nd Place: Gary Higgins,
Boston Business Journal
Cranberry Harvest
Every year cranberries. This is the best coverage of cranberry harvest in my years of judging the NENPA photojournalist contest. Well done.

3rd Place: Gary Higgins,
Boston Business Journal
Logan Airport holiday travel
Excellent coverage of an all too familiar and generally disliked subject. Very strong.

PICTORIAL PHOTO

Daily 1

1st Place: **Peter Pereira,**
The Standard-Times

A super show

A truly spectacular image! One of the images of this year, I wish I had hanging on my wall! What, when, Where and Why. Excellent photojournalism!

2nd Place: **Peter Pereira,**
The Standard-Times

Local fishermen use social media

Without Location and timing, there is no image here. This shows planning and patience to achieve this Excellent piece of photojournalism! Outstanding!

3rd Place: **Peter Pereira,**
The Standard-Times

A culture of magic

Just a very strong DAMN GOOD IMAGE! Well done!

Daily 2

1st Place: **Steve Heaslip, Cape Cod Times**
Nectar Stop
we3ll done

2nd Place: **Hoang 'Leon' Nguyen,**
The Republican

Just hatched
really cute

3rd Place: **Ashley Green,**
Telegram & Gazette
Pink supermoon rises over Fitchburg
Big hand for The Moon

Weekly 1

1st Place: **David Sokol, Cape Ann Beacon**
Comet Neowise

Beautiful Image! Be proud and hang it on the wall proudly. Very well done!

2nd Place: **David Sokol,**
Hamilton-Wenham Chronicle
Snowy Buck

Nice eye! Well done

3rd Place: **Nicole Harnishfeger,**
The Inquirer and Mirror
Magenta sky

Lovely!

Weekly 2

1st Place: **Tim Johnson, Vineyard Gazette**
Dog and Red Boat

There are images you view that you wish you had taken. This piece of Art is one of those images. Perfect light, composition and appeal. Pure Photojournalism at its best! Congratulations. Make a print, frame and matte it, hang it on the wall and BE PROUD. Nice Work!

2nd Place: **Gary Higgins,**
Boston Business Journal
Man on Boston Wharf

Strong image! Well done

3rd Place: **Gary Higgins,**
Boston Business Journal
Boston skyline

Spectacular sky!

PORTRAIT PHOTO

Daily 1

1st Place: Alyssa Stone,
The Enterprise, Brockton
Wrestling Captain
 Excellent image! Intense, focused and just a damn good image.

2nd Place: Peter Pereira,
The Standard-Times
Once again Lighting the World
 Creative image with perfect composition. Well done

3rd Place: Deb Cram,
Fosters Daily Democrat
strong attitude
 Excellent just a really strong environmental portrait.

Daily 2

1st Place: Glenn Russell, VTDigger.org
John Lewis
 Truly an Iconic Image! Hang this one on the wall and be proud. Well done.

2nd Place: Rick Cinclair, Telegram & Gazette
Worcester man has coronavirus
 Isolated. very strong image.

3rd Place: Stephanie Zollshan,
The Berkshire Eagle
Ruth Reichl
 Strong image!

Weekly 1

1st Place: Robin Chan, Norwell Mariner
Empty Chairs
 Excellent location, composition and expression. Well done!

2nd Place: Marnie Crawford Samuelson,
Provincetown Independent

Outer Cape Portrait: The Third Generation
 Pure Art! Excellent image! make a print, frame it, hang it on the wall and BE Proud!

3rd Place: David Sokol, Beverly Citizen
Corn Lover
 Great Image!

Weekly 2

1st Place: Jeanna Shepard,
Vineyard Gazette
Jessie Benton
 Excellent image! Very well done.

2nd Place: Mark Alan Lovewell,
Vineyard Gazette
Micah Thanhauser
 Strong artist image. Nice lighting

3rd Place: Albert O. Fischer,
Vineyard Gazette
Stanley Larsen
 Interesting angle. nice image

SPORTS PHOTO

Daily 1

1st Place: Jaime Campos, The Salem News
A Giant Fumble
 Excellent Peal Action! Just a first quality sports action image. Nice work~

2nd Place: Jaime Campos, The Salem News
50-50 Header
 Peak action image. Very well done.

3rd Place: John Shishmanian,
The Norwich Bulletin
Sports photo
 Excellent reaction image.

SPORTS PHOTO*(continued)***Daily 2**

**1st Place: Jim Shannon,
Republican-American
Flippin' good kick**

Damn Good Action! Peak action with out a doubt. Well Done

**2nd Place: Steve Heaslip, Cape Cod Times
Good Save**

This is the actions after the actual action. Many shooters stop shooting after the "play" and miss this rally strong reaction image. Well done

**3rd Place: Ashley Green,
Telegram & Gazette
Up and Over**

Strong action. Faces, the ball and captured at the peak of the play.

Weekly 1

**1st Place: Nicole Harnishfeger,
The Inquirer and Mirror
Boys Soccer Playoff, first round D. 4.**

This is Superior Soccer action! Faces, the ball and solid action. Really an example of excellence! Well Done1

**2nd Place: Nicole Harnishfeger,
The Inquirer and Mirror
Torane Burton in the air going to the
basket**

Peak basketball action! Excellent!

**3rd Place: Nicole Harnishfeger,
The Inquirer and Mirror
Whalers win in overtime reaction**

After action action. Fantastic celebration image.

Weekly 2

**1st Place: Mike Mandell,
The Ellsworth American
The same old game**

Peak action. Faces, the ball and tacklers. Strong football action

**2nd Place: Ken McGagh, Burlington Union
Upside Down Wrestler**

Head standing wrestler is an out of the normal image for grapplers. god action

**3rd Place: Ray Ewing, Vineyard Gazette
MV Sharks Fans**

Proving there is more to sports than what is happening on the field or court. Nice fan reaction image

SPOT NEWS PHOTO**Daily 1**

**1st Place: Alyssa Stone,
The Enterprise, Brockton
Pepper Spray**

Excellent hard news image. Well done.

**2nd Place: Deb Cram,
Fosters Daily Democrat
I Give Up**

Very strong hard news image. Well done.

**3rd Place: Peter Pereira,
The Standard-Times
Saved by Michael**

Very well done image and composition. Excellent.

Daily 2

**1st Place: Stephanie Zollshan,
The Berkshire Eagle
Pittsfield fire**

Excellent image of personal tragedy. Well done. Great facial expressions.

SPOT NEWS PHOTO

(continued)

2nd Place: Don Treeger, The Republican
Feeling the heat

FIREfighter in action. Strong image.

3rd Place: Rick Cinclair, Telegram & Gazette
Main South Protest

Interesting image but it is too confusion to tell a clear story. We know that something is happening with police but even with eating the text, it is a confusion image.

Weekly 1

1st Place: Tom Neubelt, Journal Opinion
TR1

Outstanding News Image! Peak action. Very Nice.

2nd Place: Nicole Harnishfeger,
The Inquirer and Mirror
Black Lives Matter candlelight vigil
Strong image.

3rd Place: Mark Alan Lovewell,
Vineyard Gazette
Comet Neowise
very nice

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR



Jackson Cote
MassLive

PHOTOJOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

weekly newspapers



David Sokol
Gannett



PHOTOJOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

daily newspapers



Peter Pereira
The Standard-Times

REPORTER OF THE YEAR
weekly newspapers



Noah Asimow
Vineyard Gazette



REPORTER OF THE YEAR
daily newspapers



Hadley Barndollar
Seacoast Media

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

News Services and Online News Sites

1st Place: **VTDigger.org**



Specialty

1st Place **VT Ski & Ride**



2nd Place: **Boston Business Journal**

3rd Place: **UpCountry Magazine**

3rd Place: **New Hampshire
Business Review**

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

(continued)

Weekly 1

1st Place: The Vermont Standard

Things to do THIS WEEK Page 8C
Windsor Central Unified District BUDGET REPORT — Inside This Issue —
VERMONT STANDARD \$1.00
 Vol. 167 — No. 7 For local news 7 days a week see TheVermontStandard.com Thursday, February 13, 2020

Woodstock police hire two new officers
 By Alan Stein
 Woodstock police will be joining Woodstock's police force, bringing the department back up to full staffing levels.
 Police Chief Robert Blinn announced at Tuesday's Board of Village Trustees meeting that the retired full-time officer and a part-time officer had been hired, bringing the total number of police officers to six full-time and six part-time. Blinn, an assistant Vermont police officer, will fill the full-time position that has been vacant since July 2019.
 See POLICE — Page 4A

School board to cull \$200K from budget
 By Alan Stein
 Woodstock School board officials are weighing a \$200,000 to proposed FY21 budget cuts to correct going over an approved equalized per capita student expenditure amount and keeping financial practices from the state.
 The newly merged district has faced many challenges and requests to its state resources. "We've experienced that May 20th Budget call as a result of the emergency request board and an financial assistance."
 The board "continues to be present with situations that require both a short-term and long-term response, while at the same time maintaining a posture of thoughtful, informed decision-making," she said.
 On Jan. 16, a majority of board members voted to approve a \$17.5 million budget for FY21, which is an increase of \$1.8 million, over the current budget.
 See BUDGET — Page 4A

Crafty valentines
 The Upper Valley student network in Quechee hosted an all-ages valentine making party on Saturday, with teachers guiding children through the steps of making several different designs. Holly Duffin makes a heart filled with lavender. See more photos on 6A.

Barnard village sidewalk project to take next steps
 By Heather Shalje
 BARNARD — Baby steps. Barnard's 12, 1200-foot-long sidewalk project for a 4-foot, 400-foot sidewalk on pedestrian path to connect key points in the village center are proposed.
 In that Feb. 8 meeting, the Barnard Select Board approved Town Administrator Prudence Babin's or the Municipal Project Manager (MPM), the official contract.
 The study area includes 1200 feet of VT Route 102, and 400 feet of Stage Road. Highway 102 is a two-way street, and other streets are one-way.
 The project will also include a 400-foot sidewalk on Stage Road, and a 400-foot sidewalk on Stage Road. The project will also include a 400-foot sidewalk on Stage Road, and a 400-foot sidewalk on Stage Road.
 See page 4A for map of proposed sidewalk project.

2nd Place: The Martha's Vineyard Times

3rd Place: Stowe Reporter

Weekly 2

1st Place: Vineyard Gazette

Summer, do your worst! Light your tinsel noose, and call on your performing stars to fall on! Heading through your paper sky.
VINEYARD GAZETTE
 Shabby to Chic
 Summer Traffic Triggers Talk of Tipping Point Around the Island
 Shack Sighting: Close to Shore, Seal Factory Can't Be Ignored
 GREY BARN BREAD
 ROCK POND Ration's Ball
 VIA Drivers Are Back at Work After Summer Strike Ends
 LandVest
 Walter & Sotheby's
 MATTHEW BANK

2nd Place: Addison County Independent

3rd Place: The Ellsworth American

GENERAL EXCELLENCE
(continued)

Daily 1

1st Place: The Patriot Ledger

The Patriot Ledger
SAT/SUN | JUNE 13-14, 2020 \$4.00

S. Shore officials hesitant on 'defunding' police
Koch faces backlash over his language

New cases fall, but deaths in Europe

Hall of dinosaurs' now 21st century workplace

While some police and municipal leaders are open to reforms, most question the idea of major funding cuts

Police spending per capita

City/Town	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Andover	\$1,000	\$950	\$900	\$850	\$800
Andover	\$950	\$900	\$850	\$800	\$750
Andover	\$900	\$850	\$800	\$750	\$700
Andover	\$850	\$800	\$750	\$700	\$650
Andover	\$800	\$750	\$700	\$650	\$600
Andover	\$750	\$700	\$650	\$600	\$550
Andover	\$700	\$650	\$600	\$550	\$500
Andover	\$650	\$600	\$550	\$500	\$450
Andover	\$600	\$550	\$500	\$450	\$400
Andover	\$550	\$500	\$450	\$400	\$350
Andover	\$500	\$450	\$400	\$350	\$300
Andover	\$450	\$400	\$350	\$300	\$250
Andover	\$400	\$350	\$300	\$250	\$200
Andover	\$350	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150
Andover	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$100
Andover	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$100	\$50
Andover	\$200	\$150	\$100	\$50	\$0

FORECAST

SPRAY 4.99% APR
Crescent CREDIT UNION

2nd Place: Gloucester Daily Times

3rd Place: Brattleboro Reformer

Daily 2

1st Place: The Republican

Sunday Republican
FEBRUARY 19, 2020 MASS LIVE

BRUINS DOWN WINGS
Boston team for the eighth time in the last nine games and Bruce Cassidy makes his 200th victory as an NHL coach, Page 14

Raves about rates

'Hall of dinosaurs' now 21st century workplace

The Republican earns major honors

SUGAR RUSH!
SCHOOL VACATION FUN FEBRUARY 20-21
FREE WITH ADMISSION

2nd Place: Republican-American

3rd Place: The Berkshire Eagle

